

# Village of Germantown Hills

## Economic Development Council Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2021 5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**-Jeff DeGroot called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

EDC Committee	Roll Call	1	2	3	4	5
Jeff DeGroot-Village President	Present	Y	Y			
Stephanie Chaon	Present	Y	Y			
Denny Couri	Absent	-	Y			
Bob Sutton	Present	Y	Y			
Dan Mair	Absent	-	-			
Nathan Henricks	Present	Y	Y			
Veronica Axelson	Absent	-	-			
Randy Nash	Present	Y	Y			
Tom Eckstein	Present	Y	Y			
Karl Figg	Absent	-	-			
Ann Sasso-Director	Present	Y	Y			

Also, present:

Rich Brecklin, Superintendent of Public Works

Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Approval of the April 8, 2021 EDC meeting minutes**

A motion was made by Bob Sutton to approve the April 8, 2021 EDC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #1.**

3. **Discussion on EDC Goals, Ideas and Opportunities**

Jeff DeGroot explained that the EDC was formed years ago when he was first Village President in order to be more active on economic development. Jeff noted we are limited on commercial properties but feels economic development goes beyond that. He has had conversations with Julia Miller, park committee chairperson about having a farmer's market and festival in order to bring people into the area.

Denny Couri arrived at 5:10 p.m.

Denny Couri stated he has an amusement park contact that we could discuss potential opportunities for a festival in the future. The board discussed potential events and dates in order to get something planned. Ann Sasso will look at area events to see when a good date would be to plan an event next year.

Denny Couri noted the need to have rides, food, beer tent, and a band to draw people to the area.

Jeff DeGroot stated he would like to see a farmer's market that could include other vendors.

Stephanie Chaon stated she has a contact for a farmer's market that she will reach out to.

The committee agreed that it will take a lot of people so the EDC will want to coordinate with the park committee. Ann Sasso will let Julia Miller know.

#### **4. Germantown Crossing Discussion and Update**

Ann Sasso stated before COVID we were discussing the idea of changing out the Germantown Crossing panel sign in front of Ricky's. She was asking for guidance on whether or not to include all of the business names or just keep it Germantown Crossing but update the panel. Over a year ago when asked most of the businesses wanted the business names listed. Ann will check with the sign company.

Rich Brecklin updated the committee on the Veterans Park development. Rich noted there will be three monuments, benches, lighting, a flag pole, concrete, brick pavers and a sidewalk to connect the development to our other sidewalks. Rich noted the Village Board has approved the development so things are moving forward.

#### **5. EDC Chairman/Director/Village President Reports-**Jeff DeGroot noted the Village is working on getting a cell tower in the area to help with the signal.

Ann Sasso stated The Michael's Run for Life is scheduled for July 24<sup>th</sup>. Ann noted the village submitted an application for the Build Illinois Fund Grant in order to get \$50,000 reimbursement towards the Hannah Drive Road improvements. Ann noted she hasn't heard yet on the timing or requirements for the infrastructure funds that are supposed to be available. There's going to be some village hall improvements as a part of the Woodford County Revolving loan fund. Ann explained the Liquor Shoppe wants to put up decorative blinds on their windows. The code will allow it as an attached sign. The committee discussed.

#### **6. Germantown Hills Chamber of Commerce update**

Ann Sasso noted there will be Chamber social on July 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:00 p.m. at Kouris.

#### **7. School Updates and Upcoming Events-**Dan Mair was not in attendance.

#### **8. Germantown Hills Library Update-**The library update was sent via email from Joel Shoemaker.

#### **9. Business Round Table Updates**

Stephanie Chaon noted the new sign at Kouri's looks good. She stated Goodfield Bank will be doing a customer appreciation day on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 11-2:00 p.m.

Bob Sutton stated he had made a request to the Village if there are infrastructure funds available to consider assisting the water company with three projects that are needed totaling \$53,000. The Village hasn't received information on the timing or requirements on how the funds can be used.

Randy Nash stated he didn't renew his term on the fire district board but is still on the ZBA.

Duane Campen at Germantown Automotive decided to not paint his building and use the business community improvement grant funds last year. Unfortunately, Duane Campen passed away recently.

Ann Sasso noted Nathan Henricks is now a Village Trustee.

**10. Next meeting – August 12, 2021 5:00 p.m.** The next EDC meeting is at 5:00 p.m. at the village hall.

**11. Adjournment-**A motion was made by Randy Nash to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m. The motion was seconded by Nathan Henricks. **Motion passed #2.**

Ann Sasso, Village Clerk