

**AGENDA**  
**\*\*Rescheduled Meeting\*\***  
**Economic Development Committee**  
**Thursday, December 8, 2022**  
**7:00 p.m. – Darien City Hall**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – November 3, 2022**
- 4. New Business**
  - a) Nomination/Vote for Committee Chairperson**
  - b) EDC Duties and Tasks – Activities/Initiatives for 2023 (PAGE 4)**
    - i. New Business License Welcome Package**
    - ii. Other Ideas**
- 5. Old Business**
  - a) Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters**
    - i. EDC Member Updates**
    - ii. Staff Updates**
- 6. Next Scheduled Meeting – January 5, 2023**
- 7. Adjournment**

**City of Darien**  
**Minutes Economic Development Committee**  
**Thursday, November 3, 2022**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM. Committee Members present were Bob Hahn, Lou Mallers, Angelo Imbrogno, Tom Papais, and Matt Weberling. Also present was City Planner Jordan Yanke and Alderperson Tom Chlystek.

**2. Public Comment**

Homeowner Bob Whaley made comment and thanked the Committee for their open discussion and attentiveness at its prior meeting in September. The discussion at the prior meeting pertained to future land use ideas for property located at the southeast and northeast corners of Plainfield Road and Clarendon Hills Road.

**3. Approval of Minutes – September 1, 2022**

Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**4. New Business**

**a) Recap of Concept Plan Discussions**

Committee held a general discussion and recap of the conceptual plan ideas that have appeared on the agenda during 2022. Committee reaffirmed the need to be proactive and entice developers to Darien and try to target existing commercial centers. Focal point of the discussion was Chestnut Court and next steps, the primary one being an appraisal so the City can have that to show potential developers.

The property at the southeast and northeast corners of Plainfield Road and Clarendon Hills Road was discussed again. Committee member Tom Papais provided a conceptual “pocket” park example for the property at the northeast corner. Alderman Tom Chlystek provided comment and support for the idea. Takeaway was that Alderman Chlystek would bring up the idea of the City purchasing the property at the next City Council meeting.

**b) Annual Committee Update**

City Planner Jordan Yanke stated that an annual update or report would be put together for January or February of 2023. The update/report would capture the Committee’s activities and accomplishments over the past year.

## 5. Old Business

### a) EDC Duties and Tasks – Develop Working Strategy

#### i. Activities/Initiatives for 2023

Brief discussion ensued regarding initiatives for the Committee during 2023. Committee member Bob Hahn specifically mentioned the New Business License Welcome Package initiative and questioned if it's still being done. Staff will look into status and bring the item back to the Committee.

### b) Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters

#### i. EDC Member Updates

#### ii. Staff Updates

Committee member Tom Papais gave an update on Chamber of Commerce events. One event specifically mentioned was the Casino Night. Staff gave brief update on current projects and businesses that are either new or prospective.

## 6. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is TBD but most likely will be rescheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2022.

## 7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM.

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APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

**AGENDA MEMO  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 8, 2022**

In June 2022, the Economic Development Committee held a preliminary discussion on future efforts and the need to refocus around an organized framework and strategy. The framework and strategy is for City staff and EDC members to understand roles and what working tasks should be assigned month-to-month. This memo provides an overview of the Committee's Mission Statement and related objectives, in addition to recommended points for the EDC to consider at its December Meeting as part of a follow up discussion.

**EDC Mission Statement**

The City of Darien is dedicated to help create opportunities for economic development through desirable business growth, expansion, retention and attraction in working as partners to develop a climate conducive in maintaining the quality of life in the City of Darien. We are dedicated to creating a more vibrant and cultivated community by:

- *Serving as a conduit between the commercial economic interests in Darien, including property managers, local business managers, government agencies, and national corporate leaders.*
- *Encouraging the economic well-being, retention, and expansion of the existing commercial businesses located within Darien.*
- *Engaging community residents to participate in the process of attracting, developing and supporting business in Darien.*
- *Supporting the local Chamber of Commerce to facilitate communication and cooperation for local businesses.*
- *Responsibly assisting in developing properties within the City of Darien in an effort to both improve the aesthetics of the City and provide additional revenue.*
- *Properly reviewing City ordinances, policies, and practices to determine their impact on existing and proposed commercial businesses.*

**Duties and Tasks for the EDC (For Discussion at Meeting)**

Per the above Mission Statement and ordinance adopted at the time of the Committee's inception, the following are points for consideration at the December Meeting. These points are a baseline for staff and the Committee to develop a working strategy in terms of assigning roles and tasks moving forward. Note that they are not a catch-all, so the Committee can expound on them if needed.

- 1) Recommend to the City Council those actions and programs that will serve to carry out the purpose of the committee.
- 2) Provide an annual update to the City Council on the activities of the committee.
- 3) Serve as focal point for businesses to approach and discuss issues that affect them.
- 4) Participate in the Business Visitation Program and evaluate findings of program progress.
- 5) Prepare appropriate economic developmental promotional materials.
- 6) Target specific companies or industries for business attraction efforts.
- 7) Identify economic incentives that may be offered to businesses.
- 8) Perform such other duties as the Mayor and/or Alderpersons may direct.

## Why join a Chamber of Commerce?

For Promotion and publicity. With a chamber membership, you can reach potential clients through member exclusive advertising and opportunities for business-to-business advertising...

Membership brings credibility to your business. You can increase positive perception among consumers and business owners when you're identified as a member of a chamber of commerce.

– Dearborn Chamber of Commerce in Michigan

Increase your visibility in the community. As a new member of the chamber of commerce, you will be listed in the chamber newsletter, e-newsletter, on Facebook and have the opportunity to be highlighted in other chamber publications. You also can grow your business by advertising with the chamber and sponsoring events. The chamber may also promote your grand opening/ ribbon-cutting ceremony and assist with any public relations efforts.

– Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce in Texas

Create networking opportunities. Chambers have numerous committees and serving on one of them provides numerous networking opportunities as well as professional leadership development. You can build your while promoting developments of keen interest to local businesses and the community at large.

– Columbia County Chamber of Commerce in Georgia

Chamber events and programs. Chamber events and programs provide members with great opportunities to get to know new people and expand their prospect base. Chamber events are innovative and fun ways to help members meet potential customers, clients and vendors – and generate new business leads.

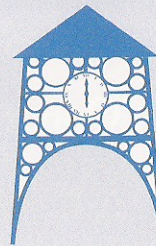
– Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce in California

Receive chamber newsletters. Newsletters provide new member information, interesting information about operating a local business, articles about the local community, a community calendar and details about up-and-coming chamber events, among other things.

– Teton Valley Chamber Of Commerce in Idaho

Acquire customer referrals. Every day, your local chamber receives calls from individuals and businesses looking for potential vendors, and chamber members typically recommend chamber members.

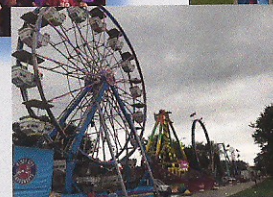
– Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce in Tennessee



# Darien Chamber of Commerce

YOUR CONNECTION TO BUSINESS SUCCESS

## Membership Benefits



### MISSION STATEMENT

*"The mission of the Darien Chamber of Commerce is to work proactively with all community leaders to enhance the vitality and prosperity of the businesses, citizens, schools, government, emergency services and organizations of Darien".*

Darien Chamber of Commerce

1702 Plainfield Road Darien, IL 60561 • 630.968.0004 • Fax: 630.852.4709

# What does the Darien Chamber offer you? ...

## Discounted Marketing and Sponsorship Opportunities

at major events such as:

**Darien Dash** – An annual fundraiser 1 Mile, 5K & 10K CARA certified run held on a Sunday morning every May.

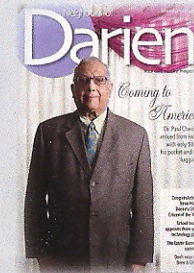
**Darien Fest** – An annual (3) day weekend Festival of Bands, Food, Business EXPO and Carnival rides.

**“Dancing with the Chamber Starz”** – An annual, local business celebrity, gala event.

**FREE Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies** – with the Board of Directors and city officials celebrating your business opening, remodeling, new management, new location, expansions, etc...

**Networking Opportunities** – throughout the year to meet with this and other chamber members.

**Discounted Sponsorship Opportunities** – at all larger Multi-Chamber Events and programs.



**Discounted Advertising** – in the ‘Neighbors of Darien’ community Magazine distributed to all Darien residences.

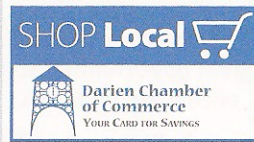
**FREE Advertisement** – in our annual May edition Buyer’s Guide in Neighbors of Darien magazine.

**Company information and Website link** – on chamber website at: [www.darienchamber.com](http://www.darienchamber.com)

**FREE monthly Networking Opportunity** – “DCC Coffee Connection” held the last Tuesday of every month at various Darien Banks.

**FREE Business Promo or discount advertising specials on “Shop Local” program!** –

\* (FREE card to all chamber members).



**Multiple opportunities** – for you to widen your business exposure and increase relationships with other members by volunteering at chamber events and/or joining the Board of Directors.

