

AGENDA
****Rescheduled Meeting****
Economic Development Committee
Thursday, June 23, 2022
7:00 p.m. – Darien City Hall

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – May 5, 2022**
- 4. New Business**
 - a) Discussion on EDC Duties and Tasks**
Develop Working Strategy for Staff/EDC (PAGE 4)
- 5. Old Business**
 - a) Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters**
 - i. EDC Member Updates**
 - ii. Staff Updates**
- 6. Next Scheduled Meeting – July 7, 2022**
- 7. Adjournment**

City of Darien
Minutes Economic Development Committee
Thursday, May 5, 2022

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:09PM. Committee Members present were Lou Mallers, Brian Liedtke, Tom Papais, Nick Pitzer, and Bob Hahn. Also present City Planner Jordan Yanke.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of Minutes – April 7, 2022

Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

4. New Business

a) Develop Process for the EDC to hear Specific Property and Development Ideas

City Planner Jordan Yanke spoke briefly on the need to develop a process for the EDC to hear/discuss development ideas for parcels. The Committee concurred and discussion ensued. The consensus was that property/business owners or EDC members would submit a written request to City staff for a development idea or proposal to be considered at a meeting.

b) Overview of EDC Incentive Application and Process – SEE Page 4

An overview of the EDC Incentive Application was provided by staff, and brief discussion amongst the Committee followed. Staff noted that while the City has not received many formal incentive requests, it is important for all members to be aware of the application and review process.

5. Old Business

a) Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters

**i. Recap of Chestnut Court Shopping Center Discussion
(SE Corner 75TH Street/Lemont Road)**

Staff provided an update on discussions pertaining to Chestnut Court Shopping Center for the EDC members that were not present during the April meeting. Next steps or action steps include the property management

company (*PineTree*) performing market research into whether or not mixed-use is a viable redevelopment option for the center. Staff indicated that the management company will be in touch in the coming weeks or month.

ii. EDC Member Updates

EDC Committee Member Tom Papais gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce activities and upcoming events.

iii. Staff Updates

General update on City-wide development or building projects was given by staff. More specifically, staff indicated the Sokol Court building project would begin during summer unless something unexpected occurs.

6. Next Scheduled Meeting

Next scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 2, 2022.

7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16PM.

APPROVED:

BRYAN GAY, CHAIRPERSON

AGENDA MEMO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JUNE 23, 2022

In April 2022, the Economic Development Committee held a 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 June Meeting.

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 June 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.