

AGENDA
Economic Development Committee
Thursday, June 3, 2021
7:00 p.m. – Darien City Hall

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – May 6, 2021**
- 4. New Business**
- 5. Old Business**
 - a) Upcoming Initiatives**
 - i. Springtime – A Nice Time to Shop in Darien; Virtual Business Expos; In Person Business Introductions
 - b) New Business License welcome package updates**
- 6. Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters**
 - a) EDC July appointment updates
 - b) Other longer-term initiatives
- 7. Next Scheduled Meeting**
- 8. Adjournment**

City of Darien
Minutes Economic Development Committee
Thursday, May 6, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairwoman Tina Beilke. Other committee members present were: Angelo Imbrogno, Bryan Gay, Louis Mallers and Nick Pitzer. Also present were Mayor Joseph Marchese and Alderwoman (EDC Committee liaison) Mary Sullivan.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes – April 12, 2021

Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

4. New Business

- a) **New Business License welcome package** – The sample new business license welcome package included in meeting materials was discussed. Feedback was good. Updates to Chamber information needs to be replaced. Another item to include in the packet were other Darien business coupon promotions (buy one get one free offerings, etc.) to encourage the new businesses to visit other venues in town. Also discussed was including any free City promotional items (pens, stickers, etc.).

5. Old Business

- a) **Business Community Spotlight Events– Coordination with City, EDC, and Darien Chamber of Commerce**
 - i. **Springtime – A Nice Time to Shop in Darien** – The Darien Chamber of Commerce created the list of businesses in Darien, regardless if they were Chamber members or not, and gave them the opportunity to participate in this program. 15

businesses responded and will be included. The advertisement was being finalized and was being sent out in the next few days.

Virtual Business Expos – A summary of City’s plan was communicated wherein the City would enhance the business area of their website with hyperlinks to each business (or email address would be listed in addition to the name and address already listed).

In Person Business Introductions – A recap of the decision to resume businesses being invited to the City Council meetings was discussed. Upcoming businesses were shared.

b) Shop Local (bludot, etc.) – Committee is still discussing the best fit for a more formal shop local program. Some of the offerings out there are too complicated and/or may be selling your information. Bryan Gay shared what programs Aurora had looked at.

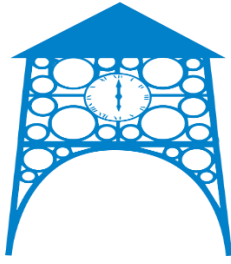
6. Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters– Next EDC Committee members are being reviewed for July appointment.

7. Next Scheduled Meeting

Next scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 3, 2021.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.



Darien Chamber of Commerce

YOUR CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY

The Darien Chamber of Commerce is a diverse group of Business professionals in and around the City of Darien area. Our membership also includes Schools, Public Service, and many Not-for-Profit organizations. The purpose of the Darien Chamber is to provide opportunities for your business to further promote, expose, and network. We also offer a FREE Ribbon Cutting ceremony to our members not only at your grand opening, but for new product/service promotion, and company remodel or expansion!

Some of our annual events to host or sponsor your business are:

- [Annual Chamber Golf Outing, \(May 21, 2021\)](#) at Carriage Greens Country Club in Darien. We offer several opportunities to advertise and participate.
- Quarterly [“After Hours” \(June 30th at QBAR\)](#) Networking events at various Darien area establishments.
- [“Cruisin on Cass” \(Monday Nights, June 7- August30, 2021\)](#) Weekly classic car show every Monday night at the QBar parking lot. This family fun filled event brings classic car participants from all over the Chicagoland area. We offer a variety of levels to sponsor at this event and there is an onsite Business Expo.
- [Darien Dash \(1 mile, 5k, and 10k run\) \(Sept. 12, 2021\)](#) Runners from all over the Chicagoland area participate. Several opportunities to sponsor and participate in the onsite Business Expo. This year we will pay tribute to the 20th Anniversary of 9/11.
- [“Dancing with the Chamber Starz” \(November 2021\)](#): Just like the Dance Show on ABC, local celebrities dance with assistance from the dance professionals at Fred Astaire Dance Studio. It is a fun, semi formal, community event providing networking and business sponsorship promotion.

We also host occasional “Lunch & Learn” events at Darien area restaurants and join with other chambers hosting Multi-Chamber events and business expos.

Check us out at: www.darienchamber.com

April Padalik

Executive Director

Darien Chamber of Commerce

Your Connection to Community!

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