

City of Darien
Minutes Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, November 11, 2020

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairwoman Tina Beilke. Other committee members present via ZOOM were: Louis Mallers, Angelo Imbrogno, Bryan Gay, Robert Hahn and Nick Pitzer. Mayor Joseph Marchese and Alderwoman Mary Sullivan were also present.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes – October 14, 2020

The minutes as submitted for October 14, 2020 were approved.

4. New Business

a) Discussion of Shop Local/Property Tax Card

A discussion took place regarding ideas for Shop Local programs. During CoVid restrictions, some programs may not be feasible. Bryan Gay shared many programs the City of Aurora is looking into. The Committee will continue to look into the many programs offered.

b) CoVid 19 Calls to All Businesses

The Committee will check in with all businesses, not just restaurants, to support and identify any needs they have. A follow up list of businesses and questions will circulate.

5. Old Business

a) Chamber of Commerce Integration Discussions

A lengthy discussion regarding the Chamber took place. Committee will be asking Chamber to provide a strategy/plan going forward and what the plan is to revitalize or reinvent themselves in order to bring it success in the future. Ideas of putting memberships on pause until post CoVid was brought up, as well as idea to have EDC and the Chamber set up a collaborate meeting in near future. Angelo and Nick offered to take more of a hands on role with the Mayor and Chamber.

b) EDC Presentation to City Council

The EDC's list of accomplishments and ongoing goals was submitted to Mayor and City staff. Mayor Marchese stated it will be put on one of the upcoming City Council's agendas.

6. Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters

There were no previous topics discussed.

7. Next Scheduled Meeting

The Committee had a discussion regarding changing the dates and times of the EDC meetings. The Committee unanimously opted to change the EDC meetings to the first Thursday of every month beginning in December. Same time at 7:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:29 pm was approved.