

**City of Darien**  
**Minutes Economic Development Committee**  
**Wednesday, October 14, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Chairwoman Tina Beilke. Other committee members present were: Louis Mallers, Matt Weberling, and Nick Pitzer. Alderwoman Mary Sullivan was also present.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of Minutes – June 10, 2020**

The minutes as submitted for June 10, 2020 were approved.

**4. New Business**

**a) Darien Chamber of Commerce Representative**

James Burke and April Padalik from the Darien Chamber of Commerce gave the committee an update on Chamber membership and challenges with CoVid 19. The Chamber brought up options of the Chamber being a part of Darien and/or joining efforts with the City and Economic Development Committee citing efficiencies and common goals. The Chamber's challenges are visibility and funding. A suggestion to have a member of the Chamber to sit on the Economic Development Committee was raised. A follow up regarding how this could be incorporated either formally or informally was discussed.

**5. Old Business**

**a) Census Update**

Mention of Darien having the highest response rate of neighboring towns was made. Census ending this month.

**b) Business calls to Darien Residents**

Reflection on how calls to businesses went during early CoVid months was discussed. Members expressed their thoughts that it was more important than ever to continue those reach outs to all businesses (not just restaurants) to offer resources and support.

### **c) EDC Presentation to City Council**

No other edits were recommended. Follow up to City staff on final version will be made.

## **6. Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters**

Members shared experiences and observations from their own customer experiences around town. Additional Food and Beverage tax rebates were just approved by City Council for eligible businesses.

## **7. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The second Wednesday in November is November 11th @ 7Pm.

## **8. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:30pm approved.