AGENDA
Economic Development Commission Meeting
July 10, 2020
8:30 a.m.

**NEW LOCATION**
DeKalb Police Department
700 W. Lincoln Highway
2nd Floor Training Room
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

On June 26, 2020, the Governor issued an order moving Illinois into Phase Four of the state’s revitalization plan, which permits gatherings with 50 or fewer people, provided other social distancing protocols are followed. Persons who are unable to attend the meeting in person but wish to comment on an item listed on this agenda may email their comments to Executive Assistant Ruth Scott at ruth.scott@cityofdekalb.com. Comments will be read into the record at the appropriate time during the meeting.

A. Roll Call
B. Approval of the Agenda
C. Approval of Minutes
D. Public Participation
E. Reports
   1. City Manager Report.
F. Old Business
   2. AGN Resource Guide.
G. New Business
I. Adjournment
MINUTES
CITY OF DEKALB
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 6, 2020

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) of the City of DeKalb, Illinois held a regular meeting on March 6, 2020 in the Executive Conference Room of the DeKalb Municipal Building, 200 S. Fourth Street, DeKalb, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Executive Assistant Ruth Scott called the roll and the following EDC members were present at roll call: Chair Jeff Richardson, Members Grant Goltz, Mark Sawyer, and Brian Scholle, and Ex-Officio members Paul Borek (DCEDC) and Matt Duffy (DeKalb Chamber of Commerce).

EDC Member Vernese Edghill-Walden arrived at 8:32 a.m. EDC Member Sam Walt was absent.

Other present included City Manager Bill Nicklas, Transit Manager Marcus Cox, and Executive Assistant Ruth Scott.

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Mr. Sawyer moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Goltz.

VOTE

Motion carried by a voice vote of the majority of members present.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES


MOTION

Mr. Sawyer moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mr. Scholle.

VOTE

Motion carried by a voice vote of the majority of members present.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mike Embrey noted he invited Will Heinisch of the DeKalb Area Rental Association (DARA) as a small business interest.
Mr. Heinisch stated that community sentiment towards the City of DeKalb has become very positive.

Brief discussion followed regarding locations for electric charge stations within the city.

E. REPORTS

1. City Manager Report.

City Manager Nicklas provided an update on the Ferrara Candy Company project, as well as the ongoing Ventus Tech Services, LLC project. Mr. Nicklas stated the predevelopment agreement with Ventus would be going before Council on March 9 and encouraged members of the EDC to attend in a show of support.

Discussion ensued regarding a letter of support for the Ventus project from the EDC. Those members present were in agreement that the letter should be written.

Brief discussion ensued regarding housing and transportation.


Mr. Duffy reported on upcoming events sponsored by the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce including workforce training. He also noted that In the Loop videos are still ongoing. Future videos will feature the Census, the Egyptian Theatre, and signage changes, and minimum wage changes. Mr. Duffy asked the EDC to contact him if they had any topics they would like to see addressed with an In the Loop video.

Mr. Duffy also reported on the upcoming Community Expo on April 4 at the DeKalb High School fieldhouse, nothing a home show component has been added this year.


Mr. Borek reported that the DCEDC has been working with the City regarding Ventus and other projects.

Mr. Borek also provided each EDC member with a questionnaire, which will be used to prepare a branding and messaging plan to attract businesses and families to DeKalb County, nothing the plan will be rolled out in the middle of the year. He asked each member to complete the questionnaire and return it to him at their earliest convenience.

F. OLD BUSINESS


Mr. Borek stated that he and Mr. Sawyer met with Wehrli Custom Fabrication as part of the EDC’s business retention program and provided each EDC member with a copy of the questions and answers.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the responses on the questionnaire.
Brief discussion also ensued regarding upcoming changes to the City's signage code and setbacks.

2. AGN Resource Guide.

Transit Manager Cox provided an update on the resource guide based on thoughts and ideas provided at the last EDC meeting, which included the question and answer section, text readability, adding routes to Kishwaukee College and Elburn on the map, and route icons to places of interest and employment. He noted that the "must have" information was edited for trip planning and bus tracking capabilities and a QR code will be added.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of copies to be made, in English and in Spanish, of the resource guide, as well as how to get the information out to the public.

Brief discussion ensued regarding fares, the possibility of a monthly transit pass, a prepaid pass, and branding of the buses.

G. NEW BUSINESS


It was decided that this item will be returned for discussion at the next EDC meeting.


There was no discussion regarding this item.

I. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Mr. Goltz moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Scholle.

VOTE

Motioned carried by a voice vote of the majority of members present. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH A. SCOTT, Executive Assistant