

**MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, July 25, 2013**

Present: Chairman Chuck Currie, Betty Cloud, Dianna Ehrenfried, Len Di Gate, and Bill Zyrkowski.

Also present: Mayor Nicholas J. Helmer

Meeting called to order 5:41pm by Chairman Currie

Motion was made to accept the minutes from the June 25, 2013 meeting by Len Digate and seconded by Bill Zyrkowski.

No discussion on the minutes and they were accepted unanimously

Report by Steve Skiber, Building and Zoning, no report

There was only one item on the agenda for this special meeting. Role of the EBDC. Suggestions and comments to Mayor Helmer:

1. Current organization of committee very difficult for volunteers to maintain
2. Business after Hours at Players OTB was not successful
3. Competition of economic development of surrounding committees very hard to maintain without a city employee.

Obstacles that the committee views:

1. Surrounding municipalities have at least one full time employee working on economic development; not volunteers
2. Surrounding municipalities are able to retain businesses by having employees have this as their focus.
3. All surrounding communities are fighting for the same tax dollars
4. Concentration on what PH offers versus other communities
5. Consider a full time employee and a possible part time employee to get started

There are organizations, associations and publication that employees of the Economic Development staff members can and should belong to. Their focus must be on retention as well as filling the existing 31 vacate store fronts.

Mayor Helmer has made the suggestion of a possible name change; Prospect Heights Merchant and Owners Association.

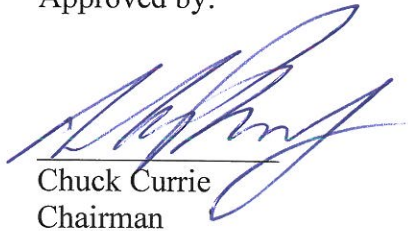
Mayor Helmer has been in contact with a group of Economic Development specialties for the State of Illinois; Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. We are now on their list for future help.

Dianna Ehrenfried, owner of Visualedge Creative, will now be working on the quarterly newsletter. A special thank you to Rich Tibbits who is stepping down from the newsletter. You have served the community very well by starting the newsletter years ago.

The Business After Hours scheduled for September 04 at the Crowne Plaza has been canceled. The Business After Hours scheduled for December 04 at the Hilton Northbrook is still on the books.

The special meeting of the Economic Business Development Committee was adjourned at 6:47pm by Len Digate and seconded by Dianna Ehrenfried.

Approved by:



Chuck Currie
Chairman

Submitted by:



Betty Cloud
Acting Secretary