

**Village of Algonquin
Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2008
7:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Steve Karaba, Jerry Pinderski, Mary Fioretti, and Jack Navarrete. Staff: Jeff Mihelich, Katie Parkhurst, and Ben Mason. Absent: Tom McCabe, Linda Laipert, and Mike Agee.

Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes from the January 10, 2008 meeting.

Chairperson Karaba entertained a motion on the minutes from the January 10, 2008 meeting. Mr. Pinderski made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2008 meeting. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

Agenda Item 3: Introduce New Commission Members

Chairperson Karaba asked Mary Fioretti and Jack Navarrete to introduce themselves to the EDC and welcomed them as new members. Mr. Pinderski and Chairperson Karaba introduced themselves as well.

Agenda Item 4: Algonquin Corporate Campus

Mrs. Katie Parkhurst gave an update of activity in the Algonquin Corporate Campus. Advantage Moving has recently painted the exterior of their buildings and will be in next week to talk with staff about expansion plans.

Mr. Pinderski inquired if their building is used for storage. Chairperson Karaba stated it is full of crates used to store items.

Mr. Mihelich reported on the two site selector meetings held yesterday. Mr. Mihelich and Teresa Nortillo met with six brokers from Coldwell Banker in Northbrook. They are very interested in the Algonquin Corporate Campus. They also met with Northern Builders, Inc in Schiller Park. This company just finished a business park in Naperville and is very interested in working in Algonquin.

Ms. Fioretti inquired who moved into their business park, what is their specialty. Mr. Mihelich stated he is not sure of all the tenants, they do specialize in distribution. Mr. Mihelich did inform them that we are not looking for large distribution facilities.

Mr. Pinderski inquired about the Esplanade project. Mrs. Parkhurst explained the three existing buildings and tenants in addition to the plans for phase 2.

Agenda Item 5: Website Presentations

Mrs. Parkhurst walked the EDC through the Village website highlighting the Algonquin Corporate Campus marketing tools.

Ms. Fioretti inquired if all Village's have uniform zoning classifications. Mrs. Parkhurst explained zoning may be similar but not uniform for all cities. Definitions of our zoning classifications are further explained by clicking on the zoning.

Ms. Fioretti inquired if other Village's have similar websites for their corporate parks. Mr. Mihelich stated larger communities probably do, but most websites for corporate parks are regional sites (such as counties).

Mr. Navarrete inquired if there are medical uses planned. Mr. Mihelich stated medical is one of the Village's target industries due to our location compared to the new hospitals locating in the area.

Mr. Pinderski stated he is very pleased with the website and it is user-friendly.

Chairperson Karaba inquired if the information came from the work Nortillo and Associates had done. Mr. Mihelich stated the reports completed by Nortillo are on the website. Nortillo provided various good examples of websites, which was used to develop our website.

Ms. Fioretti commented that the link on the homepage is critical to get people to the correct location. Ms. Fioretti inquired if an email newsletter is sent out. Mrs. Parkhurst stated not at this time, we are working on tracking brokers via email.

Mr. Pinderski inquired if there is a feature to track the number of hits the page receives. Mr. Mihelich stated the Village can track the number of hits.

Agenda Item 6: Downtown Revitalization—Old Town District Streetscape Plan

Mr. Mason walked the EDC through a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the approved Streetscape Plan. The Downtown Revitalization Plan suggested a unified urban design. The Streetscape Plan expands on this idea and breaks the components into phasing. The Village has applied for an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program grant from IDOT for the first phase of the improvements.

Chairperson Karaba inquired about the parking lots behind Main Street. Mr. Mihelich explained the Village would love to acquire all the parking lots, redesign them for a more attractive parking lot with more landscaping; however, the property owners do not wish to cooperate at this time.

Ms. Fioretti commented that the design for the alley ways would be of interest to the Algonquin Garden Club.

Mr. Pinderski inquired about extending the river walk across Route 31 to Cornish Park. Mr. Mihelich stated that as that block of property redevelops, a river walk would be included.

Mr. Mihelich further explained the design for Centennial Plaza would include interpretive signage to recognize the historic significance of the plaza. Ms. Fioretti suggested the history be included on the decorative wall instead of on separate signs.

Mr. Navarrete inquired if the residents had an opportunity to comment on the Streetscape Plans. Mr. Mihelich explained the public input process and the positive feedback received from the residents.

Mr. Pinderski inquired about the overall price tag for all the improvements. Mr. Mihelich stated the project would be \$5 million, with the first phase being about \$1 million. The improvements will be phased in as budget allows and as grants are received.

Other Business

Chairperson asked for an update on East Algonquin Road. Mrs. Parkhurst mentioned Tower Center, Fountain Square, Glacier Plaza and Glenloch.

Agenda Item 7: Adjournment

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approved:



Steve Karaba, Chairperson, EDC

