

**Village of Algonquin  
Economic Development Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
September 11, 2008  
7:00 p.m.**

**Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum**

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Steve Karaba, Jerry Pinderski, Mary Fioretti, Jack Navarrete, Tom McCabe, Linda Laipert, and Mike Agee. Staff: Katie Parkhurst and Ben Mason.  
Absent: None

**Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes from the May 8, 2008 meeting.**

Chairperson Karaba entertained a motion on the minutes from the May 8, 2008 meeting. Mr. Pinderski made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2008 meeting and Ms. Fioretti seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

**Agenda Item 3: Algonquin Corporate Campus Update**

Mrs. Katie Parkhurst gave an update of activity in the Algonquin Corporate Campus. The highlights include Advantage Moving's approval of a second building. The Esplanade Phase 2 was just approved and construction will begin this fall. The marketing step-up sheets were updated this summer and will be placed on the website shortly. Also the Randall Road corridor map was updated and will be on the website soon.

Ms. Fioretti commented that the updates are well done and the materials are appropriate.

Chairperson Karaba inquired what is the largest city in McHenry County in terms of population. After research by staff, the largest city is Algonquin, followed by Crystal Lake and Lake in the Hills.

Mr. Pinderski inquired who still calls inquiring about the Algonquin Corporate Campus. Mrs. Parkhurst responded that the calls are generally from site selectors and brokers. However, staff does receive email proposals from the State and McHenry County Economic Development Corporation for specific companies looking to locate in the area. Staff responds to these as appropriate.

Ms. Fioretti suggested adding Roosevelt University to the list of nearby colleges on the step-up sheets.

**Agenda Item 4: Business Visitation**

Mr. Agee reported to the Commission on the Business Visitation conducted with Realty Executives Cornerstone. Steve Karaba, Mike Agee, Linda Laipert, and Katie Parkhurst attended

the visitation. Overall they are very excited to be located in Algonquin, specifically the Esplanade. They have created a shared office environment which is working very well.

Ms. Fioretti commented on Rick O'Connor's projection that the housing market will not turn around until 2011. Mr. Pinderski concurs with that assumption since this area is starting to loose more jobs.

Ms. Fioretti commented that the City of Chicago has hired Jones Lang LaSalle to attract businesses to Chicago. It may be worthwhile for the Village to consider at least having a meeting with them.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Development Update**

Mrs. Parkhurst walked the EDC through the various commercial and residential projects active in the Village.

The highlights included: Esplanade seeing tenants move in, Wal-mart's expansion to a Super Wal-mart, restaurants in the Galleria, Oakridge Court, Creeks Crossing, and Riverside Square.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Randall Road Pedestrian Crossing Study**

Mr. Mason announced to the EDC that the Village is in the first step of conducting a pedestrian crossing study for Randall Road. The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be used to generate public input if a crossing is necessary, what type of crossing, where it should be located, and options for funding. The EDC is invited to attend the meeting and participate as residents, not EDC members.

Mr. Agee noted this is a great approach to the issue.

Mr. Pinderski questioned if certain locations are even feasible due to engineering requirements. Mrs. Parkhurst stated engineering will be reviewed after the initial public input session.

Mr. Navarrete inquired if the counties are participating. Mr. Mason responded that both counties are aware of the study and have been invited to the public meeting. Staff will follow up with all Village departments, counties, police and fire after the public input meeting to further discuss the results.

Ms. Laipert wondered if a trolley system could be used during the holiday shopping season to determine the number of people crossing Randall Road and those willing to park once and ride around to the various shopping centers in the Village. Mr. Agee added that maybe a company promoting various types of fuels or vehicles would sponsor the trolley.

#### **Other Business**

Mrs. Parkhurst provided the Commission with copies of the latest edition of the Business Connection newsletter.

**Agenda Item 7:      Adjournment**

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Approved:

  
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Steve Karaba, Chairperson, EDC