

**Village of Algonquin
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
November 9, 2017
7:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Jerry Pinderski, Commissioners: Bob Smith, Dave Ward, Vince Vachio, and Brian Rasek. Absent: Mike Ritter and Kurt Moders Staff: Russ Farnum and Katie Parkhurst
Guest: John Harris, a5

Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes from the September 14, 2017 Meeting

Chairperson Pinderski entertained a motion on the minutes from the September 14, 2017 meeting. Mr. Rasek made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Smith seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

Agenda Item 3: Public Comment

There was no one in attendance that wished to provide public comment.

Agenda Item 4: Village of Algonquin Economic Development Marketing Efforts

The Village of Algonquin hired a5 to assist with economic development marketing of the Village. All work that is produced by a5 will be owned by them with a copyright for the Village to use the materials. The project plan starts now and ends in the Spring. Mr. Harris and his team will work closely with staff to create the right story for Algonquin.

John Harris, principal with a5, led the EDC in a discussion to obtain strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. The discussion is to allow the EDC an opportunity to share their thoughts on what is important. The EDC did introductions of who they are and why they are on the EDC. Some of the responses included: Desire to be involved in community, started company in Algonquin, wants to share expertise to help promote Algonquin and attract companies to the area, did not feel the Chamber was a good business fit, knew the Village President, enjoy seeing business thrive and wants to see a good base of business to keep Algonquin growing, long-term resident, and aggressively look for businesses.

Where is Algonquin today? Are we in a good spot or bad spot?

Very strong tax base, financially sound, retail sales tax base, concern with vacant stores, East Algonquin struggles, perception of east versus west side of the Algonquin, Algonquin Commons has put us on the map, incredible convenience of the shopping available, restaurants, Dundee Crown High School perception, decent schools but other districts close are better, west side was growing when there was a big housing boom, disinvestment of commercial property owners, retail and residential focused people do not think of Algonquin for commercial and industrial business, shifting to medical uses and small office uses/services, nothing special/unique, downtown redevelopment, TIF, affordable alternative from Schaumburg, Palatine area, history of Village, Corporate Campus next to Commons, range of homes

Let's promote what schools do well since we cannot change what the schools do. Commute time is 45 minutes for CEO to travel. Engage high school students to get them to want them to come back here after college.

What is the Vision? What would you like to see? What is next?

Algonquin Corporate Campus and Algonquin Commons together creates a synergy, live/work/shop/play, need entry level apartments/housing, need more high end housing options, Longmeadow Parkway connection to the east and open Corporate Campus, downtown renovations with mixed use, hardware store on the east side, Fox River recreation, boat slips, entrepreneurial corporate, are we willing to do incentives,

What other communities do we like?

Oak Brook, Schaumburg, Geneva, Elgin, Carmel IN, Barrington, Vernon Hills, Oswego, St. Charles.

What makes Algonquin Unique, Different or Special?

People committed to community, we do everything well recreation, shops, schools, well managed Village, fair to businesses, good reputation (tough but fair) (expensive impact fees), Fox River, open space, flexibility of a clean slate for building. Want to create a buzz in the market place.

Agenda Item 5: New/Old Business

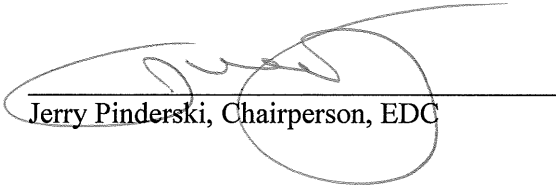
- A. Manufacturing, Trades, Industry Career Expo**—Mr. Moders did attend the event.
- B. Apprenticeship Event**—Mrs. Parkhurst reported that the McHenry County Workforce Network is sponsoring a National Apprenticeship Week Event to highlight the importance of apprenticeships for businesses. This event was shared with Algonquin businesses in which we have email addresses.
- C. Business Awards**— Mrs. Parkhurst reminded the EDC she is accepting nominations for the Business Awards. Any further ideas should be provided by the end of November.
- D. Business Visits**— Mrs. Parkhurst gave an overview of the business visit with Tri-County Truck Accessories (2240 East Algonquin Road). Mr. Mason and Mrs. Parkhurst met with Lee Mikos the owner to discuss the business. Tri-County opened in 1956 as a family owned company and continues to be family owned. There are four locations, with Algonquin being the main store (Algonquin, Round Lake Heights, Oak Forest, and Aurora). The company has 16 employees that cover all the stores. The company has changed with the times and trends and continues to do well. The core customers come from a 10-15-mile radius; however, customers will travel from other states to purchase the products sold at Tri-County as they are not available in all parts of the country. They expanded their showroom in 2001. The owner lives in Algonquin. There is no succession plan to pass the family business to a family member but the value of the company would be worth selling in the future to continue the store.

Mrs. Parkhurst reminded the EDC of the upcoming visits and encouraged them to attend.

Agenda Item 6: Adjournment

Mr. Ward made a motion and Mr. Smith seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Approved:


Jerry Pinderski, Chairperson, EDC