Village of Algonquin Economic Development Commission September 9, 2010 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Steve Karaba, Jerry Pinderski, Tom McCabe, Kurt Moders, and Linda Laipert. Staff: Katie Parkhurst and Russ Farnum. Absent: Jack Navarrete and Mary Fioretti.

Agenda Item 2: Introduce New EDC Member

The EDC welcomed Kurt Moders, new EDC member. Mr. Moders is president of Kenmode Tool and Engineering. Kenmode has been in business for 50 years, the majority of that time in Algonquin.

Agenda Item 3: Approve Minutes from the May 13, 2010 meeting

Chairperson Karaba entertained a motion on the minutes from the May 13, 2010 meeting. Mr. Pinderski made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2010 meeting and Ms. Laipert seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

Agenda Item 4: Business Visitation Reports—Fox River Center

Mrs. Katie Parkhurst reported that staff is focusing on the business retention program by conducting more business visitations. Staff and EDC members visited with many of the tenants in the Fox River Center and the property owner, Mr. Nick Dimitrilis to discuss business in this slow economy.

Chairperson Karaba inquired about potential parking issues if the pancake house is opened. Mrs. Parkhurst stated the other restaurants in this location have not caused any parking issues. The owner stated his staff will be required to park at the other end of the shopping center where more parking stalls are available. Some of the tenants in the shopping center were concerned about parking as well, however they are also excited about the potential of bringing more people to the center. Parking will have to be worked out between the tenants and the property owner should any issues arise.

Ms. Laipert inquired about parking concerns with the driving school. Mrs. Parkhurst stated they have been in business for three years and none of the tenants complained about parking. They do have three behind the wheel vehicles; however those are not kept on site.

Agenda Item 5: Development Updates

Mrs. Parkhurst briefly explained the development update for the year, January through August. While there have been a number of businesses closing this year, there are slightly more businesses that have opened.

Mr. Pinderski inquired about interest in the Algonquin Corporate Campus. Mrs. Parkhurst stated the Algonquin Corporate Condos building, west of Boyer Road, is almost completely filled. The Rothbart building also is filled. Staff is hopeful that if the interest keeps up this may encourage Rothbarts and/or Plote to build their second buildings.

Ms. Laipert mentioned that Chubby's restaurant is doing very well and they offer catering.

Agenda Item 6: Other Business

Mrs. Parkhurst reviewed the nominations for the annual Business Awards to date and asked the EDC to think of other businesses that should be considered. Ms. Laipert stated she liked the idea of recognizing the mom and pop businesses over the large corporate retailers. Chairperson Karaba stated Burnt Toast would be a good candidate for an award.

Mrs. Parkhurst informed the EDC that the Village had nominated Wauconda Tool and Engineering, Kenmode, Duro-Life and Algonquin Commons for the McHenry County Economic Development Corporation Business Champions award. This award will be presented at the end of September and staff has not heard who will be receiving the award. Mr. Chuck Burnside of Wauconda Tool and Engineering called staff to thank them for the nomination and invited us to visit anytime.

Chairperson Karaba asked that the next meeting (November 11) be a planning meeting to discuss a strategy for marketing the Algonquin Corporate Campus.

Agenda Item 7: Adjournment

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved:

Stéve Karaba, Chairperson, EDC