

**Village of Algonquin
Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2006
7:00 p.m.**

Agenda Item 1: Roll Call/Establish Quorum

PRESENT: Members: Chairperson Steve Karaba, Jerry Pinderski, Tom McCabe, Jacquie Kacena, and Mike Agee. Staff: Katie Thornton and Ben Mason. Absent: Mike Reilly and Carl Schnecke.

Ms. Thornton introduced Jacquie Kacena, new EDC member. She is a longtime resident of Algonquin, and small business owner (Bella Vita Salon in Downtown). The EDC welcomed her to the Commission.

Ms. Thornton also introduced Ben Mason, new planner with the Village. The EDC welcomed Ben to the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Approve Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2006 and March 9, 2006 meetings.

Chairperson Karaba requested a motion to approve the January 12, 2006 minutes and the March 9, 2006 notes. Mr. Agee moved and Mr. Pinderski seconded the motion to approve the minutes and notes. Voice vote noted all ayes and the minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3: Algonquin Corporate Campus Marketing

Ms. Thornton provided a brief update on the activities at the Algonquin Corporate Campus. Specifically, Rothbart is moving forward with their first building and Par is moving forward with Phase III.

Ms. Thornton provided an overview of the Request For Proposal (RFP) for the marketing of the Algonquin Corporate Campus process to date. Staff directly mailed 24 RFP to companies and posted the RFP on two websites. This generated 9 submittals. Staff will review all 9 proposals and create a short list of 3-5 companies to interview. The interviews should take place at the end of May or beginning of June.

The EDC came to a consensus that Chairperson Karaba and Mike Agee should sit on the interview panel along with the Village President, Village Manager, Assistant Village Manager and Senior Planner.

Mr. Pinderski encouraged the interview panel to be very thorough in questioning the companies and that it is OK to not select a firm if there are none that seem qualified.

Agenda Item 4: Downtown Algonquin Update

Mr. Mason presented a PowerPoint on the Downtown revitalization efforts over the past year and what is coming in the near future. The presentation included an overview of the Downtown Revitalization Plan, Downtown Partnership (activities, events and advertising), Elgin Community College Small Business Development Center satellite office at Historic Village Hall, and a listing of new businesses in the Downtown.

Chairperson Karaba inquired how long the ECC Small Business Development Office was not at Historic Village Hall. Ms. Thornton stated it was closed for period of time due to staff health reasons; however ECC still offered the same assistance at the College. Now ECC has the staff available to send one person here one day a week.

Mr. Mason informed the Commission of the new residential project, Main Street Commons, that has received preliminary approval from the Village Board. Chairperson Karaba asked how tall the building is. Mr. Mason stated 4 stories. Ms. Kacena asked if the elevations shown are what were approved or if they will be changed. Mr. Mason stated the elevation will be modified slightly per the Village Board request. Mr. McCabe inquired if the street will be paved. Mr. Mason stated Legion Drive will be improved as part of this development.

Mr. Mason showed the EDC pictures of Cornish Park, currently under construction. Mr. Agee inquired where people park to go to this park. Ms. Thornton stated there will be a small parking area off of S. Harrison Street and La Fox River Drive, plus a municipal lot across the street. The idea is that people can park anywhere in the Downtown area and walk to this park.

Mr. Mason suggested that there are more developers interested in redeveloping Downtown. Mr. Pinderski inquired how the new restaurants are doing. Mr. Mason stated they are all doing very well. Ms. Kacena mentioned her clients do talk about the restaurants and provide good reviews.

Agenda Item 5: Other Business

Chairperson Karaba inquired about the various developments (Galleria, Esplanade, etc) under construction. Ms. Thornton provided a brief update on the commercial developments in the Village.

Agenda Item 6: Adjournment

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved:



Steve Karaba, Chairperson, EDC