

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2019

Members Present:

Ken Sharkey	Jerry Dinges
Robert Allen	Robert Trentman
Matt Smallheer	Rick Vernier

Members Excused:

Marty Crawford

Staff Present:

Rick Stubblefield, Director
Jennifer Little, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Tim Cantwell, Airport Director

Call to Order:

Chairman Sharkey called the Committee to order at 5:00 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Regarding the Agenda:

Chairman Sharkey asked if anyone present had a question or comment regarding the agenda. There were none.

Approval of the March 21, 2019 Committee Minutes (action required):

Chairman Sharkey called for action on the March 21, 2019 Committee minutes. Mr. Vernier made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Dinges. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business (Director's Report, action required):

Chairman Sharkey asked the Director to give his report. Mr. Stubblefield updated the Committee on department activities and meetings since the March 21, 2019 Committee meeting and other on-going projects. He read his monthly report (March 22, 2019 – April 18, 2019). There was one new lead/prospect: Prairie State Energy. The company is looking to convert fly ash into environmentally safe construction material and is exploring locations.

Meetings: Mr. Stubblefield met with the East St. Louis Community Development Director to discuss Community Development funds administered through St. Clair County and Economic Development Opportunities. He also met with the Belleville Community Development Corporation (CDC), a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) to discuss our role in helping them with home rehabilitation. St. Clair County assists in the rehabbing of blighted homes. These efforts have a great impact on neighborhoods

not only because a blighted home is returned to housing stock but also because it is sold to a low income buyer (SCC also provides a subsidy to the low-income buyer), it is returned to the tax rolls and helps stabilize neighborhoods. The ribbon cutting for this property is scheduled for April 24th. Mr. Stubblefield attended both the Metro East Chamber and the Belleville Chamber meetings this month. He also attended a meeting with Governor Pritzker at Southern Illinois Builders Association to discuss his capital improvement plan as well as labor issues. Mr. Stubblefield attended the Belle-Scott Dinner, the Garrison Command meeting to discuss issues and the economic development impact of all three Illinois installations, the Scott Energy Summit, he and Chairman Kern met with Col Meyer interim Commander at Scott. He spoke to the Belleville Rotary Club about Economic Development in St. Clair County. He also had separate meetings with Edie Koch of the Monroe County Economic Development Corporation, Paul Ellis with Fairview Heights Economic Development Department, Kevin Terveer of the Southwestern Illinois Planning Commission, and David Kniepkamp, Chair of the Southwestern Illinois Trade and Investment Council. Mr. Stubblefield represented Chairman Kern at the Fairmont City, Caseyville, Brooklyn Enterprise Zone meeting. He attended the Boeing Elected Officials and Community Leaders meeting on April 11th and the Lebanon Review Board meeting on April 12th.

Mr. Dinges asked for an update on Boeing. Mr. Stubblefield responded they have not yet announced a location but continue to mention St. Clair County.

Mr. Allen asked if the announcement at World Wide Technology discussed land development on the west side of the racetrack. Mr. Stubblefield responded there was no discussion; however he said he has noticed retaining ponds being put in which leads him to believe someone is going to build.

Social media: Facebook page has 2,333 "likes" which is +7 from last month and Twitter has 812 "followers" which is +5 since last month. Please follow/like us: Facebook: St. Clair County Economic Development (StClairCountyEconDev) and Twitter: @SCCEconDev.

Mr. Dinges made the motion to approve the Director's Report and Mr. Vernier made the second. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business (Airport Director's Report, information only):

Chairman Sharkey asked the Airport Director to give his report. Mr. Cantwell distributed his monthly running total of passenger counts, fuel sales, and related numbers. He discussed the other items in his handout including a new lease for a company who requires an airport footprint and a new delivery system for the passenger terminal modification. There was discussion regarding these items.

New Business:

None

Old Business

None

There were no additional comments or questions from the Committee or the public. Chairman Sharkey asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Vernier so moved and it was seconded by Mr. Smallheer. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the Committee adjourned at 5:18 pm.