

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes June 20th, 2019

Members Present:

Ken Sharkey	Matt Smallheer
Jerry Dinges	Robert Trentman

Members Excused:

Robert Allen
Marty Crawford
Rick Vernier

Staff Present:

Rick Stubblefield, Director

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 May 16, 2019 Committee Minutes (action required):

Chairman Sharkey called for action on the May 16, 2019 Committee minutes. Mr. Dinges made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mr. Smallheer. 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 May 16, 2019 Committee meeting and other on-going projects. He read his monthly report (May 16, 2019 – June 20, 2019). Mr. Stubblefield has had quite a few inquiries concerning Lindenwood Belleville's downsizing. He met with an individual from Lindenwood, not on behalf of Lindenwood, rather more of an informational meeting to discuss faculty and staff concerns and possible solutions.

Meetings: Mr. Stubblefield met with SWIC President Nick Mance and IGD's consultant Keith Moran in regards to the Mid America Enterprise Zone expansion. While the zone did have a slight expansion the bigger change was the request to add property tax abatement throughout the zone. Property tax abatement was not an

initial component of the zone; however with the opening of the Rieder Road interchange off I-64, the County as well as neighboring cities have been approached by significant developers with plans to develop this area.

Mr. Stubblefield stated he continues to meet with representatives from SIUE and various other entities concerning the revitalization of the Higher Education Campus in East St. Louis. IGD has been working to bring new programs and partners to that campus.

He also attended an Urban Strategies meeting at the Gompers Homes in East St. Louis. Urban Strategies Inc. in partnership with the Housing Authority of City of East St. Louis is leading a \$350,000 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant. The Choice Neighborhoods program is designed to leverage significant public and private dollars to support locally driven strategies that address struggling neighborhoods with distressed public or HUD-assisted housing through a comprehensive approach to neighborhood transformation. Local leaders, residents, and stakeholders, such as public housing authorities, cities, schools, police, business owners, nonprofits, and private developers, come together to create and implement a plan that revitalizes distressed HUD housing and addresses the challenges in the surrounding neighborhood. The program helps communities transform neighborhoods by revitalizing severely distressed public and/or assisted housing and catalyzing critical improvements in the neighborhood, including vacant property, housing, businesses, services, and schools. Mr. Sharkey added the neighborhoods are defined from Collinsville Avenue up to 22nd Street. Mr. Dinges asked if the housing located on part of 25th Street is part of the project. Mr. Sharkey responded that was a McCormack Baron project and is outside of the zone. He added Urban Strategies is affiliated with McCormack Baron.

Mr. Stubblefield stated he had a great meeting with Ken Sharkey at the Transit District concerning bus routes and expanded services.

Mr. Stubblefield was in Washington DC for a few days the week of June 9th for the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) Conference. ADC always provides a great opportunity to meet with Defense Community leaders and keep a finger on the pulse of what is going on. He was privileged to have the opportunity to introduce Colonel Marc Packler at the Association of Defense Communities National Summit awards luncheon in Washington DC. Colonel Packler received the 2019 Military Leadership Award. Colonel Packler just completed command of the 375th Communications Group located at Scott AFB. Colonel Packler's new role will be Commander of the Air Force Integration Network Center (AFNIC) also located at Scott AFB. Mr. Stubblefield expressed his continued appreciation of Tim Cantwell's expertise navigating key areas of concern both at Scott and throughout the Defense Community.

Mr. Stubblefield spoke with staff from the Governor's office regarding opportunity zones. They would like to see an opportunity zone in East St. Louis. There are a few grocery store projects and the Broadview Hotel. He will be meeting with the Chairman to discuss the zone.

Social media: Facebook page has 2,337 "likes" which is +1 from last month and Twitter has 830 "followers" which is +9 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. Trentman 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 informed members the County joined the St. Louis Regional Freightway District. He distributed an article from the Illinois Business Journal that details how the County is tied in to overall freight movement in the region. He also distributed his monthly running total of passenger counts, fuel sales, and related numbers. There was discussion regarding Boeing

projects at the airport. He provided an update regarding the passenger terminal modification and airport master plan.

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. Smallheer so moved and it was seconded by Mr. Trentman. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the Committee adjourned at 5:30 p.m.