

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes May 16th, 2019

Members Present:

Ken Sharkey	Jerry Dinges
Robert Allen	Robert Trentman

Members Excused:

Marty Crawford
Matt Smallheer
Rick Vernier

Staff Present:

Rick Stubblefield, Director

Others Present:

Mark Kern, St. Clair County Board Chairman
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 April 18, 2019 Committee Minutes (action required):

Chairman Sharkey called for action on the April 18, 2019 Committee minutes. Mr. Allen 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 April 18, 2019 Committee meeting and other on-going projects. He read his monthly report (April 19, 2019 – May 16, 2019). There have been several requests for available space both existing space and for new construction. All requests were site selection inquiries.

Meetings: Mr. Stubblefield met with the new East St. Louis City Manager, Brooke Smith; the meeting was mostly a meet and greet but the conversation did include the new administration's desire to spur economic development in East St. Louis. Mr. Stubblefield also met with Joe Gray and Marian Campbell with the National Development Council (NDC). NDC has been working with the city of East St. Louis to promote growth throughout the city's Opportunity Zones. He met with the Laborers in Bloomington to discuss/develop a state

wide apprenticeship program that would promote the trades to junior and senior high school students offering them a triple credit career path - high school, college, and apprenticeship. At the end of the program the students would have their high school diploma, 32 college credit hours, and will have completed the laborers apprenticeship program. Local labor leaders were also involved in this meeting. Mr. Stubblefield met with Southern Illinois Builders Association and the Steamfitters. He also met with Bevan Gibson the Director of the Southern Illinois Development Center at SIUE to discuss employer engagement.

Mr. Stubblefield met with Tom Mason from the CoStar Group a Commercial Real Estate firm.

He also spoke at the Workforce Development summit in Naperville, Illinois hosted by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). Workforce Development has become a major factor in driving Economic Development.

Mr. Stubblefield represented Chairman Kern at five TIF meetings in O'Fallon and will be attending the Belleville Chamber Board meeting this month.

Social media: Facebook page has 2,336 "likes" which is +3 from last month and Twitter has 821 "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. Allen 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 passenger terminal modification and airport master plan. Mr. Cantwell distributed an Illinois Business Journal article regarding the Reader Road exit. There was discussion regarding Boeing and Bobcat updates.

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. Trentman so moved and it was seconded by Mr. Allen. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the Committee adjourned at 5:49pm.