

Economic Development Commission
Thursday, February 5, 2009
Economic & Community Development Department Conference Room - Blue Room

The regular meeting of the Economic Development commission was held Thursday, February 5, 2009, in the Economic and Community Development – Blue Room. Chairman Jerry Klein called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and a quorum was established.

PRESENT: Chairman Jerry Klein, Jane Clark, James Danielik, Rocky Janda, Charles McCraw, Dr. Lyle Muller, Thomas Parzinger, Brian Pecon and John Wagner.

ABSENT: Chris Harrison

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant City Administrator Andy Pouncey and Economic Development Coordinator Katie Graffam.

MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 8, 2009 minutes as recorded. Motion passed.

2009 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chamber of Commerce – Charles McCraw

Mr. McCraw reported the January 22nd Annual Dinner Gala was very successful. He reported six business drops, five new members and 32 renewals.

Existing Business – Jane Clark

No Report.

Home Business – Rock Janda

No report.

Medical Community – Lyle Muller

Jane Clark discussed medical signage issues and alternatives to an expensive City sign policy. She discussed finding a possible vendor to enter into an exclusive partnership with the City who would do all medical signs for a fraction of the cost on the market.

Nutcracker Campaign – Thomas Parzinger

Andy Pouncey updated the Commission on the status of Nutcracker Lane. He stated the Economic Development Commission would not be doing Nutcracker Lane again per Mayor Goldsworthy's request. There will be a possible contest among citizen groups to make nutcracker costumes and winners will march in Christmas Parade.

Thomas Parzinger mentioned the features of Austin's "Trail of Lights"

Poplar/TDOT – John Wagner

John Wagner ran through the various meetings with Nashville officials – Rick Meredith, Neil Hansen, Paul Degges, Shawn McManus and Shawn Bible

Mr. Wagner mentioned a recent *Commercial Appeal* article discussing tax burdens and crime rates for neighboring municipalities, including crime tracker. He would like more information made available to the public about Germantown's accolades in this area.

Programs – Brian Pecon

Brian Pecon will try to get Jeff Wallace from the Sparks Bureau to talk about Germantown statistics and crime to the Economic Development Commission.

Publicity/Developers Meeting – Chris Harrison – **ABSENT**

No report.

Retail/Business Centers – James Danielik

James Danielik gave a short presentation on various retail strategies for the local market. He stated he would like to see more incentive programs utilized by the City to entice business owners. Chairman Klein encouraged him to pursue his strategies and report back next month.

Smart Growth – Jerry Klein, Chairman; Brian Pecon, Vice Chairman

Chairman Klein updated the Commission as to the latest changes for Saddle Creek. The Planning Commission subcommittee recently reviewed architectural changes and building materials for the project.

NEW BUSINESS

As mentioned earlier in John Wagner's report there will be a meeting update with state officials in Nashville on Monday, February 2, 2009.

Lyle Muller stated he would like the idea of a Christmas Village revisited. Chairman Klein agreed.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (PROJECTS IN PROGRESS)

Katie Graffam gave a short presentation of current projects.

IDB

Katie Graffam gave an update on the compliance report for Orgill.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned. The next meeting date is Thursday, March 5, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.