

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Thursday, April 1, 2010
Department of Development Blue Room
1920 South Germantown Road

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission was held Thursday, April 1, 2010, in the Department of Development Blue Room. Chairman Jerry Klein called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Jerry Klein, Chris Harrison, Rocky Janda, Marc Johnson, Thom Parzinger, Brian Pecon, Richard Remmert, Donald Robbins, John Wagner, Jeffrey Weesner and Susan Burrow

ABSENT: Charlie McCraw

STAFF PRESENT: Economic and Development Services Director Andy Pouncey and Economic Development Coordinator Katie Graffam

GUESTS: Patricia Cooper, GPAC Visual Arts Coordinator

MINUTES

A motion was made by Richard Remmert and seconded by Marc Johnson to approve the minutes of March 4, 2010 as distributed. Motion approved.

2010 COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Instant Art Galleries

Patricia Cooper, Visual Arts Coordinator for the Germantown Performing Arts Center, discussed her meetings with the property manager with Carrefour and the Shops of Forest Hill. The first shopping center to participate will be Carrefour, and she will let the commission know when the exhibit is ready.

b. Medical Device Industry

Chairman Klein updated the commission on the latest communications with the Memphis Bioworks Foundation. Commission members and City staff are currently searching the City for office space of at least 10,000 square feet to house the first two companies that are interested in being located in Germantown.

c. Chamber liaison – Charlie McCraw

Charlie McCraw was not present, but Katie Graffam relayed his report. The Chamber's annual Business Expo is scheduled for Tuesday, April 20th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Germantown Athletic Club. The Power Breakfast begins at 7:15 a.m. in the Great Hall. Reservations are due in to the Chamber by Thursday, April 15th.

d. Planning Commission Liaison – Susan Burrow

Susan Burrow reported that the Planning Commission met last month and voted to approve an alternate right-of-way for the Vinings subdivision on Winchester, and to approve an ordinance amendment changing the parking requirements for a congregate care facility.

e. Farmers' Market

John Wagner stated that he had approximately four or five vendors for the first Germantown Farmers' Market to be held on May 8th in the parking lot of Germantown Hardware, pending Board of Mayor and Aldermen approval.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Projects In Progress)

Katie Graffam, Economic Development Coordinator, reported on the projects recently approved by the Design Review and Planning Commissions.

DISCUSSION OF 2010 EDC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Andy Pouncey, Economic and Development Services Director, and Katie Graffam made a presentation about the history of Vision 2020 and the Economic Sustainability Plan. The five goals of the Economic Sustainability Plan are:

1. Business Development
2. Redevelopment of the Heart of Germantown
3. Vibrant Quality Retail Economy
4. Premiere Regional Medical Facilities
5. Opportunities for Home-Based Businesses and Offices

Chairman Klein commented that a few of the commission members had asked for more direction in their individual roles on the commission. It was decided that the subcommittees for the remainder of the calendar year should be formed from the goals of the Economic Sustainability Plan. Commission members were charged with researching subcommittee name possibilities and applicable projects, and to report on their findings at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be May 6, 2010.