

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Thursday, June 3, 2010
Department of Development Blue Room
1920 South Germantown Road

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission was held Thursday, June 3, 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, Alderman Carole Hinely, Rocky Janda, Marc Johnson, Thomas Parzinger, Brian Pecon, Richard Remmert and John Wagner

ABSENT: Susan Burrow, Chris Harrison, Charlie McCraw, Donald Robbins and Jeff Weesner

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

MINUTES

A motion was made by Richard Remmert and seconded by Marc Johnson to approve the minutes of May 6, 2010 as distributed. Motion approved.

2010 COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Project ArtFront

Chairman Klein reported that there has been a favorable response to the call for artists for Project ArtFront. Additional art is still arriving at GPAC, but there are three (3) displays at Carrefour. The reception is proposed for one of the following dates: August 19-20, 22.

b. Medical Device Industry

Brian Pecon reported that the Memphis Bioworks Foundation (MBF) has been in negotiations with a property manager for a potential site in the Forest Hill Heights area. Based on the latest communications with the MBF, a \$125,000 donation is required for their financial model to be successful. A subcommittee has been established to review this matter. The members of the subcommittee include Chairman Klein, Vice-Chairman Pecon, Mark Johnson, Thomas Parzinger, Richard Remmert and Rocky Janda.

c. Business Visits

Chairman Klein reminded the commission of the email that was sent out regarding the business visit program in Sacramento. Mr. Parzinger researched local governments that conduct business visits, and will send that information out to the commission. Andy Pouncey agreed to divide the City up geographically and assign business visit areas to each commission member at the next meeting.

d. Nutcracker Campaign

The commission discussed reserving the utility bill flyer to encourage residents to decorate using a nutcracker theme in the residential areas. Mr. Janda requested information about purchasing a large City nutcracker for his homeowners' association.

e. Chamber liaison – Charlie McCraw

Mr. McCraw was not present. Katie Graffam reported that the Chamber golf tournament was scheduled for June 21st at the Germantown Country Club.

f. Planning Commission liaison – Susan Burrow

Ms. Burrow was not present. Ms. Graffam reported that the Planning Commission did not meet in the month of June.

FARMERS' MARKET UPDATE

John Wagner reported that the third farmers' market was the most successful yet. Mr. Wagner attributed its success to an increased variety of fruit in addition to the farmers bringing more products to avoid selling out too early in the morning. He stated that he will feature a different type of musician for each market, with the saxophone player receiving the highest praise. According to Mr. Wagner, Mr. Thane Smith, developer and owner for Old Town Center, has expressed an interest in holding a farmers' market in his parking lot.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Projects In Progress)

Katie Graffam reported on the projects recently approved by the Design Review Commission.

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT CITY PROJECTS

Mr. Pouncey gave a detailed account of current City projects for the commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Janda inquired if anyone had contacted the Germantown Country Club for a business visit. Mr. Wagner stated that he had contacted the club, and will notify everyone when that visit is scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS

None reported.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be July 1, 2010.