

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
**Administration Conference Room**  
**1930 South Germantown Road**

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission was held Thursday, July 8, 2010, in the Administration Conference Room. Vice-Chairman Brian Pecon called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Susan Burrow, Chris Harrison, Alderman Carole Hinely, Marc Johnson, Brian Pecon, Richard Remmert, Donald Robbins, John Wagner and Jeff Weesner

**ABSENT:** Rocky Janda, Chairman Jerry Klein, Charlie McCraw and Thomas Parzinger

**STAFF PRESENT:** Katie Graffam, Economic Development Coordinator

**GUESTS:** Teresa Rando of the Great Frame Up, and Jim Pope of State Farm Insurance

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Marc Johnson and seconded by Richard Remmert to approve the minutes of June 3, 2010 as distributed. Motion approved.

**2010 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Project ArtFront

Guest speakers Teresa Rando and Jim Pope relayed to the commission their concerns regarding Project ArtFront. According to Ms. Rando, the project, which focuses on hanging local art in available storefronts, directly competes with her proposed art gallery/frame shop. Specifically, the project's commission rate that is charged is much lower than a typical gallery rate. Coupled with project contracts that do not specify non-competitive agreements as a typical gallery agreement would include, she has been unable to secure any artists for her gallery. After much discussion, the commission voted to suspend the project for six (6) months, beginning August 1, 2010, until February 1, 2011, for further review.

b. Medical Device Industry

Mr. Pecon reported that the Memphis Bioworks Foundation (MBF) continues their negotiations with a property manager for a potential site in the Forest Hill Heights area. The subcommittee that was established last month will meet to review the business plan for this endeavor.

c. Business Visits

Based on the commission's request, Ms. Graffam divided the Germantown commercial areas into districts. For the next meeting, she will assign the districts to the members and provide a business listing and business visit conversation topics for the members.

d. Nutcracker Campaign

Mr. Parzinger was not present.

e. Chamber liaison – Charlie McCraw

Mr. McCraw was not present.

f. Planning Commission liaison – Susan Burrow

Ms. Burrow reported that the Planning Commission approved a 5,000 square foot medical office building adjacent to StoneCreek Centre, west of Forest Hill-Irene Road.

**FARMERS' MARKET UPDATE**

Mr. Wagner reported that he had secured ten (10) vendors for the farmers' market. He also mentioned the article in the *Commercial Appeal* that reported the "high prices" of the Collierville farmers' market, which reflected favorably on the Germantown farmers' market for suburban markets.

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Projects In Progress)**

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Wagner requested an update on the TDOT/Poplar Avenue widening from Mr. Pouncey at the next meeting. Mr. Robbins also requested a listing of the largest sales tax payers in the City for the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be August 12, 2010.