

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR MEETING
MAY 25, 2006**

A meeting of the Village of Richmond Economic Development Commission was held at 7:30 p.m., May 25, 2006, at the Village of Richmond, 5600 Hunter Drive, Richmond, Illinois.

At Roll Call the following members were present: Charlotte Hollenbach, Lars Anderson, Lauri Olson (President), Bryce Klontz, Barb Gallegos, Cindy Walleck (Trustee)
Meeting called to order at 7:53PM

Bryce Klontz was appointed Chairman for the meeting.

Motion 1: Cindy Walleck

Motion 2: Barb Gallegos

Voice Vote

Aye: All

Neigh: 0

Klontz introduced the formation of the EDC Memorial Hall Advisory Board. Walleck discussed the purpose of the Board and updated the Commission on the current status of building items and fundraising efforts that the Friends of Memorial Hall had taken during the formation of the Board. Klontz asked for a motion to approve the creation of the EDC Memorial Hall Advisory Board.

Motion One: Bryce Klontz

Motion Two: Lars Anderson

On Roll Call Vote:

Charlotte Hollenbach: Yes

Lars Anderson: Yes

Lauri Olson: Abstain (President cannot vote)

Bryce Klontz: Yes

Barb Gallegos: Yes

Cindy Walleck: Abstain (Trustee cannot vote)

Unanimous vote received. Motion passed.

Walleck then introduced the list of members who were intended to be seated on the new committee. The member list as presented:

Charlotte Hollenbach

Irene Borres

Barb Gallegos

Suerrea McDermott

Tyler Matthews
Chip Eldredge

Klontz asked for a motion to approve the intended board members:

Motion One: Lars Anderson

Motion Two: Bryce Klontz

On Roll Call Vote:

Charlotte Hollenbach: Yes

Lars Anderson: Yes

Bryce Klontz: Yes

Barb Gallegos: Yes

Unanimous vote received. Motion passed.

Chairman Klontz introduced the discussion of Phase One of the Downtown Business District Redevelopment Plan Outline. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the redevelopment recommendations.

A map of the Historic District was requested for all EDC members to review the boundaries of that district. Discussion of creating a Historic Business District with a Historic Residential District radius was made. Inventory of the Historic district boundaries was requested to determine which buildings and/or residences held actual historic significance. Anderson submitted that the historic business buildings and residences could be capitalized on through the creation of maps for walking tours or by placing historic markers for visitor interest.

Discussion of the golf course came next including the course history of it being the first women's league in the area. Discussion of the creation of a women's tournament was held.

Hollenbach asked what is gained by having a Historic District. Klontz explained that the municipality gains control of architecture and design styles of existing buildings with new owners or even new buildings with new owners. Hollenbach submitted that if every store put just a few historic pictures in their shops it would help attract tourist interest.

Definition of underperforming businesses was made next. Klontz submitted that EDC should veer toward artisan shops and like paraphernalia. Walleck submitted that this would compliment the theatre district that the Memorial Hall Advisory Board is set to establish and the anticipated winery business. With all these items in place Richmond is sure to establish itself as a unique shop destination.

Anderson submitted that the Redevelopment Outline should be organized into short, mid/medium and long term goals. This way some of the items on the redevelopment plan can be accomplished quickly while others can be better planned for. Anderson also asked

how to best promote business in Richmond and how merchants can benefit from making business information known. Gallegos reiterated an EDC goal of hosting various seminars, workshops, self help business groups, etc. that would help the business owners gain further information on organizing, marketing and planning their businesses.

Anderson brought up the issue of traffic. He stated that we should capitalize on the patterns and make it more convenient for visitors/pedestrians to access Broadway shops. He recommended that a crossing guard be present more than just on Saturdays and Sundays.

A deadline was set to end discussion of Phase One at 9:30PM. The discussion of the Outline was ended and will be brought to the regular/standing meeting of the EDC for continuation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33PM.