

City of Dunkirk

Meeting Minutes

Economic Development Committee

October 23, 2012

Attendees: Andy Gonzalez, Councilman
Bill Rivera, Councilman
Stephanie Kiyak, Council Member-At-Large
Steve Neratko, Director of Planning and Development
Tim Gornikiewicz, CDBG Administrator, Planning and Development Department
Nicole Waite
Councilwoman Stacy Szukala, Guest
Harry Sicherman, Independent Contractor for City CDBG
Gib Snyder, Observer

Call to Order: 11:12 am

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes for the September 25, 2012 meeting were approved by Councilman Rivera, seconded by Councilman Gonzalez.

Issues Discussed:

CDBG: Steve Neratko, Director of Planning and Development, provided a handout regarding 2012 CDBG Disbursements. A copy of Resolution #73-2012, issued on September 4, 2012 outlining CDBG 2012 funding was also distributed to members and guests. Discussion ensued regarding how reporting will take place by the various department heads and the sub recipients. It was decided that since the Planning and Development Department will be provided with detailed reports regularly, they would provide Council members with regular updates. Specifically, who will be receiving funds, how the funds will be spent, and regular updates on the projects from beginning to end. Harry pointed out that the line on the Resolution “Homeownership Training” should be changed to read “Homeownership Assistance” and moved under the “Housing” category. The next meeting for the 1-Year and 5-Year CDBG Plan(s) will take place at the Court Apartments on Courtney Street in the conference room at 6:00 pm on November 8, 2012.

Boardwalk: There were three applicants for the available space at the Boardwalk (Kangaroo Café has terminated its contract with the City). Handouts of the application(s) were provided, and it was discussed who would best fill the empty storefront, based on the type of business and

hours of operation. It was decided that the Brown Bean would be an excellent fit, and a resolution will be drafted for the next Common Council meeting for approval. There are still concerns that businesses are not open regularly, and aren't always willing or able to participate with City planned events. As of the date of this meeting, two tenants are behind in their payments, and letters have been sent to them regarding this. It was inquired whether businesses that use water have had their meters installed – Steve promised to look into it and let the board know.

Festivals: Although a Halloween parade was in the works, Tim informed the group that it has been cancelled, due to a lack of planning in advance. There will be a parade on the same day in Fredonia, and Dunkirk children do have the option to participate. Creating a Festivals Committee was discussed, with a handout provided of who will be asked to join the board. It was further discussed the various options of how this board will be handled – whether under the umbrella of the DLDC or the City. It was recommended by Harry that the committee report to the DLDC board. Details will be discussed at the next DLDC meeting, and results will be provided to this committee. Handouts were also given regarding the festivals account, which is handled by Tim. Questions were provided in advance, and answers were provided in writing by Tim. It was decided that questions would be handled at the next DLDC meeting.

Note that all handouts referenced above are attached to the October 23, 2012 meeting agenda in the Clerk's Office.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 12:30 pm by Councilman Rivera, seconded by Councilman Gozalez.