



Village of Arlington Heights
Arlington Economic Alliance
Commissions Room, 2nd Floor
Arlington Heights Village Hall
33 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

April 18, 2018
7:30 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes 3/21/18

IV. REPORTS

V. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. State of the Village Co-Sponsorship
- B. SelectChicago Presentation

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact David Robb, Disability Services Coordinator, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, (847)368-5793 (Voice), (847)368-5980 (Fax) or drobb@vah.com.



Item: Minutes 3/21/18

Department: Planning & Community Development

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Minutes

Type

Minutes

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARLINGTON ECONOMIC ALLIANCE HELD ON MARCH 21, 2018 AT 7:30 A.M. AT THE VILLAGE HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Scott Whisler – Chairman
Frank Appleby
Tony Guido
Jackie Lewis
Rex Paisley
Dave Parulo
Jon Ridler
Brian Roginski
Andi Ruhl
Parth Shaha

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Henderson

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Michael Mertes – Business Development Coordinator

Call to Order

Chairman Scott Whisler called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM.

Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2018

The meeting minutes of the February 21, 2018 Arlington Economic Alliance meeting were reviewed.

JON RIDLER MOVED AND PARTH SHAHA SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DRAFT FEBRUARY 21, 2018 ARLINGTON ECONOMIC ALLIANCE MEETING MINUTES. ALL ALLIANCE MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

Development Report

The Sigwalt Apartments development failed to pass the Village Board by a vote of 4-4 on March 19th. The Conceptual Plan Review Committee favorably received the updated PUD amendment for the Arlington Downs development. Staff is awaiting a completed Plan Commission application before the project can move forward to a public hearing. Another aspect of Arlington Downs, Funtopia, will be going to the Conceptual Plan Review Committee on March 28th. This children's activity center concept has another location in Glenview, and offers wall climbing, slides, and jungle gyms, among other amenities. It would share the former water park space with the proposed First Ascent wall climbing facility.

The proposed spec industrial facility at 703-709 W. Algonquin Road will go to the Plan Commission on March 28th. The South Arlington Heights Road Corridor Plan was recommended for approval by the Plan Commission on March 14th. Lastly, at the Hickory-Kensington development area, a five-story mixed-use building is still proposed, but has not gone to Plan Commission yet. Chairman Whisler asked that Staff look into the circumstances involving the recent sale of a lot immediately north of Beverly Lanes.

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Downtown Parking Study

On March 19th, the Village Board approved a contract with Rich & Associates to conduct a comprehensive parking study of the Downtown in 2018. Rich & Associates is a consultant with vast experience in providing such services to municipalities, including Arlington Heights back in 2002. Mr. Mertes summarized the contractual focus of their efforts, based upon the request for proposals (RFP) distributed by Village Staff, as follows:

- Reviewing and analyzing past Downtown parking studies
- Recommending improvements to existing parking facilities, such as in terms of safety, lighting, and signage
- Conducting outreach to Downtown stakeholders that utilize the parking facilities
- Taking updated parking counts
- Evaluating existing parking space turnover
- Revisiting current Downtown parking ratios
- Determining the current Downtown parking demand
- Considering future parking demand based upon potential new businesses and development
- Recommending best practices for parking during special events
- Determining the best allocation for existing parking spaces
- Ensuring ADA parking is provided adequately
- Working with Downtown merchants on how to best provide parking to employees

Ms. Ruhl suggested that the consultants also speak with churches in the Downtown area regarding their parking spaces and potential availability as well. She also discussed concerns with needing to get employee parking permits through her landlord and issues regarding verbal confrontations with a Village parking officer. Adding to this, Mr. Parulo stressed the importance of the business' input during the study. Due to the impact on street parking during winter weather, Mr. Shaha asked if the study would be conducted during that season as well.

For the Alliance's reference, Chairman Whisler asked if Mr. Mertes could provide the Commission with a copy of the Rich & Associates study of Downtown Arlington Heights parking from 2002. He and Mr. Ridler also inquired about the possibility of one-way streets and whether commuter lots and street parking will also be analyzed. Mr. Mertes replied that all public parking in the Downtown will be reviewed by the consultant.

Mr. Roginski added that bike traffic through the Downtown should be encouraged. If there is an opportunity to install bike lanes (whether involving one-way streets or not), that could be beneficial to the Downtown. In regards to vehicle traffic issues in the Downtown, Ms. Lewis expressed safety concerns with the two-way intersection at Highland and Sigwalt, and asked if the Village would consider an additional stop sign there.

Regarding the consultant's planned meeting with business representatives, Mr. Appleby stressed outreach efforts to ensure that as many are reached as possible, and as much input as possible is gathered. The report should emphasize what the Village needs to do to accommodate parking for visitors, commuters, and businesses.

Mr. Parulo asked that the discussions with business owners also include discussion on future development. With more Downtown mixed-use development either planned or underway, this will add a greater parking burden to the area. Chairman Whisler acknowledged this, but also noted that he has a friend who lives Downtown and has never owned a car. There are undoubtedly others like this in the Downtown as well. The parking demand also depends on the type of business. Some need long-term parking while others, like real estate offices, have employees who are in and out throughout the day. Mr. Shaha expressed curiosity regarding how much parking Downtown residential buildings actually utilize, as opposed to the amount for which they were approved or is required by Village Code.

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Mr. Guido was curious about examples of changes that were implemented in past studies conducted by the Village's consultant, Rich & Associates, both in Arlington Heights and in other communities. Mr. Ridler emphasized listening to the perceptions of the business owners. Ms. Ruhl noted that, with new development, even if parking is provided for the residences, visitors will need places to park as well.

Potential Projects for 2018

Mr. Mertes distributed a list, for discussion, of potential topics from the previous year for an Alliance-hosted event or program. Chairman Whisler feels that a State of the Village address from the Mayor or other representative would be valuable to the business community, as the Chamber typically does on an approximately annual basis. Mr. Ridler responded that the Chamber is in discussions to put one on, potentially in partnership with the Rotary, which should help attract a larger audience. He suggested adding the Economic Alliance as a partner too. Mr. Parulo concurred, suggesting this be an annual program and partnership. Also, in regards to an autumn 2018 program, or one for early 2019, an update on the Downtown parking study could be valuable and generate interest.

Per the list of potential topics, Ms. Lewis felt that a roundtable discussion program might not be worthwhile as issues facing the Downtown were likely already voiced in the Village's recently conducted business survey. Ms. Ruhl felt that having multiple roundtables could focus on discussing different issues. The topics would be determined at the program itself, by the attendees, as opposed to the topics being pre-determined prior to the event. Mr. Ridler recommended two programs in 2018: State of the Village in the spring and the parking study in the fall.

Chairman Whisler floated the idea of a job fair, but Mr. Ridler responded that while getting businesses to show up should not be a problem, considering the current economy it is unlikely that a significant number of quality candidates would attend. Chairman Whisler also reiterated looking into water sharing between Arlington Heights and Prospect Heights along Rand Road. Having a representative from the Northwest Water Commission explain the situation and possibilities, or someone who can speak to the Village's policy with historical context, would be helpful.

Other Business

Mr. Roginski pointed out that Rolling Meadows recently approved allowing video gaming in bars and restaurants and that Arlington Heights should consider it as well. Information on each of the State's municipalities with video gaming can be found on the Illinois gaming website. Mr. Ridler added that it should be discussed if business owners truly want them, and not just to follow the leads of other communities. Keeping restaurants "family friendly" has been a Village Board position in the past. But, if these restaurants are interested in video gaming, that should trigger a discussion. Ms. Ruhl noted that some residents have been skeptical towards video gaming in the past as well.

Chairman Whisler mentioned that many of the communities surrounding Arlington Heights have either approved, or at least considered, the possibility of video gaming. Mr. Ridler also said that as a home rule municipality, Arlington Heights might be able to place more stringent regulations than just what the State requires, and inquired as to what requirements surrounding municipalities approved.

Adjournment

FRANK APPLEBY MOVED AND ANDI RUHL SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN. ALL ALLIANCE MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM.

Scott Whisler, Chairman
Arlington Economic Alliance

Prepared by Department of Planning & Community Development



Item: SelectChicago Presentation

Department: Planning & Community Development

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

SelectChicago Flyer

Type

Exhibits



SELECTCHICAGO 2018

JUNE 25 - JUNE 27

SelectChicago is a program designed to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) to the greater Chicago area, through the SelectUSA conference model. Foreign Direct Investment is a process which allows for foreign companies to invest in the United States. All FDI investors are certified by the US Department of Commerce. While leveraging the assistance of trade ministers, regional economic development organizations, municipal economic development professionals and numerous firms and benefactors, SelectChicago creates public/private partnerships to accomplish local economic development objectives. This includes residential, commercial, and industrial development.

The SelectChicago philosophy is contrary to the conventional economic development ideals. In the eyes of a foreign investor, all suburbs are considered "Chicago." Therefore, SelectChicago is a partnership across all participating Chicago area communities in order to attract attention on a global scale. Further, SelectChicago communities commit to sharing the global spotlight and are supportive of all FDI achievements. When one community receives foreign investment, other communities will benefit, because we are all "Chicago."

SelectChicago was created by the 501 (c) (3) non-profit, Greater Waukegan Development Coalition (GWDC), a private economic development organization, and is the sponsor organization coordinating SelectChicago 2018. SelectChicago is the second official spin-off event from SelectUSA, following SelectLA.

Registration for SelectChicago 2018 is open. The base registration fee is \$500 per municipality or county and includes two conference attendees, networking opportunities, and up to 10 development projects to be featured in an online Investment Portfolio which will be viewed by interested investors. GWDC will also promote SelectChicago projects at the annual SelectUSA conference, which precedes SelectChicago.

For \$3,000, communities can register to be a Showcase Community. This includes base registration features, plus the community provides an all-day tour of their community and development projects. This provides a unique opportunity to create strong relationships with investors and showcase the Chicago area. There is a limit of six communities for the Showcase Tours. Other interested communities will be placed on a wait-list, which depends on the number of foreign investors registered for the conference. Sponsorships are available.

For more information, please contact Doug Petroschius, Program Director, at doug@selectchicago.org.



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