

Committee Members:
Frank Menn
Ryan Vickers
Brenda Wagner
Harry Zimmerman
Bill Poletti

CANCELLED
A G E N D A
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
August 19, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Fairview Heights City Hall
10025 Bunkum Road

Public Participation

Approval of Minutes –

Parks & Recreation
Alderman Brenda Wagner, Chairman

1. *Director's Report*

Development
Alderman Bill Poletti, Chairman

1. *Director's Report*

Planning
Alderman Harry Zimmerman, Chairman

1. *Director's Report*

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE MEMO

TO: Elected Officials

FROM: Angela Beaston, Director of Parks and Recreation

DATE: August 17, 2020

SUBJECT: Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda Overview

Director's Report: The following is a synopsis of the Parks and Recreation Department:

Recreation Department: The Recreation Department continues to operate with very limited resources due to the impact of Covid-19. The Department is currently organizing the events and classes for the next fall magazine issue. This fall the Parks and Recreation Department will publish a monthly newsletter in lieu of the quarterly issues that typically are mailed to the residents of Fairview Heights. By publishing a monthly magazine, it will allow the department to adjust to the on-going challenges of Covid. The newsletters will be available on the REC website at www.recfh.com.

Parks Department: At this time, all playgrounds remain closed and most facilities are open but under new social guideline restrictions allowing groups of 30 or less throughout most areas of the park.

THE REC Complex: Due to the Covid-19 situation, the department has slowly brought back a limited number of employees now that all areas of the building are currently open. The department is operating under limited hours until the demand is met to extend the hours for usage. Membership usage continues to vary from day to day averaging around 150-200 people per day. At this time, we are allowing members to freeze their accounts without a penalty until December due to the fear of Covid.

Angie Beaston
Parks & Recreation Director

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RecFH.com

the Rec
Complex of FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS Parks & Recreation

MEMORANDUM

TO: Elected Officials

FROM: Paul A. Ellis, Director of Economic Development

DATE: August 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Economic Dev. Dept. - Director's Report

Addressing Economic Distress

1. The Director continues to orchestrate communications between agencies, local businesses, property owners, and other City departments so as to support recovery and long-term success for as many enterprises as possible.
2. Businesses in Fairview Heights have been successful in accessing financing and technical support from a variety of state and federal programs, and some have been successful winning resources from select private sources that the Director, in several cases, has helped identify and secure.
3. Every business from Fairview Heights that applied in June or July for assistance from St. Clair County has received funding.

Transitions

1. A national fast casual restaurant chain is seeking approval to establish a new location (replacing Ruby Tuesday) in Fairview City Centre, just east of Fresh Thyme; this new addition to Fairview Heights' retail offerings is one of the top five sales tax producing chains in the nation.
2. Sweet Cravings, a startup ice cream shop, is now open in the Fairview Heights Business Campus along Lincoln Hwy. (across the street from Schnucks Market).
3. The Director is working with several entrepreneurs and has been assembling a support team of local investors to help leverage services that will soon be available through the Metro East Business Incubator (MEBI).

Outreach

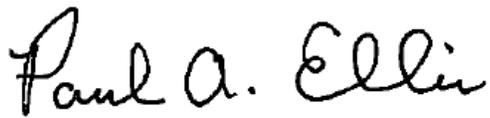
1. The Director has been focused the past two months on working closely with property owners—first, to address immediate problems resulting from the pandemic and lockdown; second, to identify (with the landlords' help) businesses that are struggling and then direct them to help; third, to encourage property owners to make new investment and recruit new tenants.
2. Retail recruitment continues despite potential roadblocks, with some property owners and some retailers pursuing more aggressive strategies than others; the Director continues to offer encouragement to property owners and brokers in order to increase the confidence in this market needed to get deals done.

Initiatives

1. The Director is working with the Director of Land Use & Development as well as community partners to explore creation of an arts district on the west side of town; discussions are just beginning.

Economic Dev. Dept. – Director’s Report (continued)

2. The Metro East Business Incubator (MEBI) is preparing to serve entrepreneurs and small businesses immediately via a virtual platform, Startup Space. ♥
3. As a member of the Mid America Workforce Investment Board (MAWIB), the Director is involved in establishing a retail and hospitality training center in Fairview Heights; the program is awaiting state approval. ♥
4. A staff team is working with local and regional real estate brokers to pursue interest from a big box retailer in the 72 acres across from The Fountains. ♥
5. The Director has worked with other department heads and outside experts to craft the first edition of the Development Dashboard, which is now available for review. ♥



Paul A. Ellis
Director of Economic Development

Attachments:

- a. Development Dashboard



DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: City Council
From: Andrea Riganti, Land Use and Development Director
Subject: Director's Report
Date: August, 2020

Major Department Activities.

Planning and Zoning

- The Planning Commission did not meet in August due to a lack of agenda items.
- There was no Zoning Board of Appeals meeting in August.
- Staff continues to respond to questions and consult with developers, property owners, and residents on new development, annexation and zoning related matters.
- Staff continues to work with Economic Development Department on revising the Business Assistance Program and economic recovery strategies.
- Additional efforts are being made to streamline economic development efforts. Encouraging joint meetings with potential developers, recommending the in-house development of an economic development packet (which could include an "Open for Business Guide", updated list of incentives, demographic information about the City, map, and other resources), the Economic Development Strategy, and Business Alliance Commission.
- Staff is reviewing the redevelopment plans for the existing Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts to determine accomplishments and identify future projects.

Code Enforcement

- Staff continues to perform routine inspections of problem properties and "hot spots" for potential property maintenance issues. Staff also responds to complaint driven issues for same. We are returning to pre-COVID-19 timeframes for abatement deadlines.
- Staff continues to work with the Public Works Department on nuisance abatement matters.
- Staff began larvaciding of drainage ditches and ponding areas.
- Staff continues to respond to animal control calls.

Building Division

- Staff continues to perform plan review and building related inspections.

JULY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY	
Residential Occupancy Permits Issued	85
Building Permits Issued	29
Commercial Occupancy Permits Issued	7
Code Enforcement Cases Initiated	68

Please let me know if there are questions or concerns.

