

MINUTES

THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS
BUSINESS ALLIANCE COMMISSION (BAC)
Tuesday, March 7, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.
City Hall
10025 Bunkum Road
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Fairview Heights Council Chambers
Video Conference/Tele Conference

Committee Members in attendance – Charles Kassly, Brenda Wagner, Charles Daily, Robert Triplett, Richard Avdoian, Van Johnson arrived at 1:35 p.m., Michael Hagen arrived at 1:37 p.m.

Committee Members absent – Don Barkley, Samantha Brown

Staff in attendance – Paul Ellis, Dallas Alley

Recorder – Kathy Frawley

CALL TO ORDER

Charles Kassly called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion and second were made by Brenda Wagner/Charles Daily to approve the February 7, 2023 Business Alliance Commission minutes. Motion to approve the February 7, 2023 minutes passed on a voice vote.

REVIEW – Recommended Revisions to Business Assistance Program (BAC)

Director Paul Ellis addressed that the changes the Business Alliance Commission asked to have adopted in November were taken to City Council/Community Committee and they were sent back. Director Ellis stated there were questions of eligibility and they were beyond the one page of recommendations that were made. Director Ellis went over the process and suggested the whole document be replaced. Director Ellis stated that he and Dallas will work on the changes (input from the Commission members) and bring back to the next meeting. Paul stated that it would include the incentives policy, maps, and the changes that are being proposed to the procedures. Director Ellis and Brenda Wagner went over the suggestions for the program. Questions and comments were discussed. Director Ellis asked the Commission if leverage should be included in the guidelines or regulations. Director Ellis also asked the Commission if guidelines needed to be included for city assistance and if so, it should be broadened. Brenda Wagner suggested putting

10% on to broaden. Commission members agreed. Questions and comments were discussed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Director’s Report

Director Paul Ellis announced the Business Assistance Awards will be given out at the City Council meeting today.

Director Paul Ellis presented his report and touched base on the following:

- 1. Ribbon Cuttings & Special Events**
 - Storyboard Living (Gateway Multifamily Group) – Thursday, March 16 at 3:30 p.m.
 - pOpshelf – Friday, March 24 (Time TBD)
- 2. Transitions**
 - Play It Again Sports
- 3. Marketing the City**
 - Article in Illinois Business Journal
 - Marketing Campaign – Lincoln Trail Business District
- 4. Arts & Tourism**
 - ArtVillage
 - Hotel/Motel Tax Grant Funding Program
 - Midwest Experience Barbeque Festival
 - Midwest Salute to the Arts
 - Midwest Wingfest
- 5. Business Recruitment & Incentives**
 - Sears Box
 - Weekends Only
 - Agostino’s Italian Restaurant
- 6. Business Retention**
 - Agostino’s Italian Restaurant
- 7. Business Creation**
 - Metro East Business Incubator
- 8. Sales Tax Report**

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT – Director’s Report

Director Dallas Alley presented his report and touched base on the following:

- 1. Business side**
 - Honda Motors
 - TC Treats
 - Shoppes at St. Clair Square
 - License Plate Readers
 - Lincoln Trail TIF District

2. Code Enforcement

- Community Service

ROUND ROBIN REPORTS

Richard Avdoian asked what the hours for St. Clair Square was.

Michael Hagen stated the doors open at 10:00 a.m. for walkers and mall stores open at 11:00 a.m.

Richard stated that his concern is the ArtVillage is not getting enough notoriety. Richard stated that he thinks it would be to our advantage to start looking for artist from around the area to get individuals to rent space from Sullivan Drive to Bunkum Road.

Richard stated he would like for his company and the ArtVillage to work together and have some indoor art festivals.

Brenda Wagner asked about the Chinese Restaurant at the former Fortel's building. Paul replied he spoke with owner and right now he has not submitted anything.

Richard asked about the Sears Building. Michael Hagen replied there is interest and should be hearing something soon.

Richard asked about Gordmans. Paul stated that the lease is pending.

Paul mentioned Market Place Center.

Michael stated that JC Penney will be doing a full remodel.

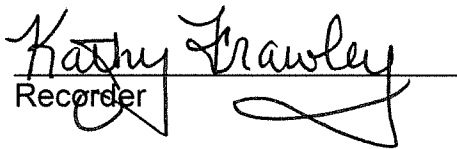
Chuck Daily asked about the Sears Auto and Signature Tap House buildings. Paul stated that right now there is no one actively pursuing it.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 - 1:30 p.m., Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned – 2:43 p.m.

Submitted By:


Recorder