

MINUTES

THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS
BUSINESS ALLIANCE COMMISSION (BAC)
Tuesday, May 2, 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, Don Barkley, Charles Daily, Robert Triplett, Richard Avdoian, and Van Johnson

Committee Members absent – Michael Hagen, Samantha Brown

Staff in attendance – Paul Ellis, Dallas Alley

Recorder – Kathy Frawley

CALL TO ORDER

Charlie Kassly called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion and second were made by Brenda Wagner/Richard Avdoian to approve the April 4, 2023 Business Alliance Commission minutes. Motion to approve the April 4, 2023 minutes passed on a voice vote.

REVIEW

Nothing

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Director's Report

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

1. Ribbon Cuttings & Special Events

- Global Founders & Mentors Festival – Thursday, May 4, 2023, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Fusion Bar & Restaurant – Friday, May 5, 2023, 10:00 a.m.
- Tree of Life Childcare Center – Friday, May 19, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

2. Marketing the City

- The FOURCE Group – Video Filming on Lincoln Trail

3. Arts & Tourism

- Grant for Tourism has been awarded to the City - \$100,000.00
- NASCAR Race – Parking has been secured at the Faith Church parking lot
- Tourism Times is now published and distributed by Discover Downstate Illinois
- Discussed benefits and feasibility of establishing a Tourism Improvement District (TID)

4. Business Recruitment & Incentives

- Sears Box – will be seeing more progress in the next couple of months
- Steak “n” Shake and Weekends Only has replacement tenants

5. Business Retention

- Agostino’s has new owner
- Back to Business Grant Programs are available – Any business that launched between January 1 and March 12, 2020 is eligible to receive \$5,000.00.

Questions & Comments were discussed.

6. Sales Tax Report

- Year over year sales tax is up significantly

LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT – Director’s Report

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

1. Code Enforcement

- Work being done at Agostino’s along with 7 or 8 other businesses – work is being done due to Code Enforcement issues.
- Kohl’s section for improvements – deterioration of pavement (parking lot)
- Vatterott College was donated to Southwestern Illinois College
- Forbes listed the Top 500 Franchises and in the first 100 Franchises, 90 of the Franchises are in Fairview Heights.
- Demolition projects
- Improvement projects – Shoppes at St. Clair Square I & Market Place

Brenda Wagner stated that she appreciates not just working with residents on code, but also the businesses.

Questions and Comments were discussed.

ROUND ROBIN REPORTS

Brenda Wagner mentioned Paul’s retirement and thanked Paul for everything he has done for the City and it was a pleasure to Chair on Paul’s Department Committee for the last couple years and congratulations on his retirement.

Charlie Kassly stated that it will be tuff to fill Paul’s shoes.

Chuck Daily stated he appreciated everything Paul has done and a lot was learned.

Richard Avdoian thanked Paul for everything he has done for the City and wished him the best.

Van Johnson stated that Paul has been a true friend and he appreciated him.

Paul stated that he told the Mayor he is leaving the Business Assistant Program uncompleted.

Questions and comments were discussed.

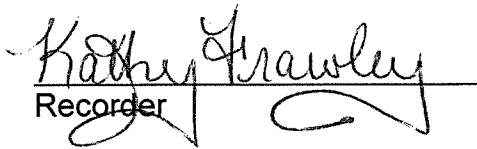
Monthly meetings will be continued.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 - 1:30 p.m., Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned – 2:30 p.m.

Submitted By:


Recorder