

Community & Economic Development Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
June 20, 2016

**Village of Homer Glen
14917 S. Founders Crossing, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Mayor's Office**

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Yukich.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call.

Members present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor George Yukich, Trustee Brian Burian, Jodi Adelman, Dan Fleming, Keith Gray, Dan Kenney, Bob Kman, Jim Orban, Bob Schmidt and Jerry Young.

Also Present: Village Manager Mike Mertens, Economic Development Director Janie Patch and Neal Querio, freelancer for The Homer Horizon.

4. Amendments to the Agenda.

No amendments.

5. New Business.

a) Introductions.

Committee members introduced themselves to the group.

b) Establish Committee Meeting Dates.

Committee members established the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. as the regular meeting date and time.

c) Discussion of Preliminary Goals.

Mayor Yukich opened the discussion asking for initial input from Committee members in regard to community priorities and future and the role of the CED Committee. Feedback from Committee members touched on a future town center, a desire to continue to be different from Orland Park and concerns regarding water rates and taxes. There was a general consensus that the Committee can play an important role in crafting and spreading the message that Homer Glen is the place to be to attract new families and employers. Families choose Homer Glen for its attractive quality of life with a low crime rate, uncrowded feel, good schools and access to Lake Michigan water.

Chairman Burian described other Committee activities including an advisory role to the Village Board and the potential to consider code improvements, incentives and some proactive tasks. Chairman Burian noted that, in its advisory capacity, the role of the CED Committee goes beyond economic development to encompass community

development. There will be a need to blend recommendations with other Village committees.

Village Manager Mertens advised the need to get a true understanding of the market. A community survey and SWOT Analysis (Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats) is typically employed to provide foundational information. Using this information in the process of setting up goals will help ensure that adopted goals are relevant and achievable. While there is no control over location, the Village has control over its codes, creating a sense of place and the decision to incent or not. This process takes time, planning and investment and can be described as an “evolution not revolution.” Chairman Burian suggested that Committee members become knowledgeable about discussions going on in other Village committee meetings. This could be accomplished by having a different volunteer cover each Village committee and report back to the CED Committee.

Jim Orban asked if there will be an update of the Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Yukich indicated that the initial need is for the Committee to get its bearings.

An orientation process for the CED Committee members will be initiated with the next Committee meeting. Staff will prepare a briefing on sales tax and economic development resources and processes currently employed for the Committee’s background.

6. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

7. Adjournment.

Motion by Bob Kman, seconded by Jerry Young to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Janie Patch
Economic Development Director