

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
City of Germantown  
July 21, 2022  
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Winning, Mark Heistand, Bill Gehr and Mike Kuhn

ALSO PRESENT: Judy Gilleland, City Manager; Will Parsons, Communications; Keith Brane, Planning Consultant and Pat Higgins, Economic Development and City Grant Writer

The meeting was called to order by Tom Winning at 9:03am

Tom began the meeting by stating how nice the new signage in the downtown area was.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Mike made a motion to approve the June minutes, Mark seconded the motion, the minutes were approved.

**Review of Request for Proposal to hire Economic Development Consultant**

Pat began the discussion by asking the members if they had any suggestions or additions regarding the recent draft of the request for proposal. No suggestions were offered. Pat continued the discussion by indicating the project will be discussed at the July meeting of the Planning Commission and the August City Council Work Session. In addition, a draft of the request is being reviewed by the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission. The grant application for the Landbank assistance will be started soon. Judy indicated the budget for the project is \$50,000.

**The Germantown DORA Plan and Process**

Will began the discussion by reviewing several pieces of information as follows:

1. Suggested Process for DORA Creation
2. Frequently Asked Questions for DORA
3. Sample of Council Resolution from City of Bellefontaine, Ohio
4. Label for cups from Milford, Ohio

The discussion included the need for a DORA Committee made up of 5 individuals, suggested names were Will, Heidi, Tom and a representative from the business community and a restaurant/bar establishment.

With regard to the cups and who would manage Judy indicated she would like to see the Chamber or another business take on this role. Tom asked if the DORA would be a potential revenue producer. Will noted the operation of the DORA is not a revenue producer.

Judy asked for a motion to proceed with the DORA program and establish a committee to assist with the development of the DORA. Mark made a motion to proceed and establish the committee and Mike seconded the motion, the motion was approved.

Judy indicated that she wanted to discuss the DORA program with City Council. It was concluded that a presentation will be made at the August 1, City Council Work Session.

#### **The blue/white ODOT approved signs for State Route 4 and Market Street Status**

Will updated the committee on the status of the signs for State Route 4 and Market Street Status. He reviewed the numerous conversations with the contracted company for signs for ODOT. Will also reported he has had discussions with Clay Alsip, Florentine Hotel Restaurant regarding a sign for the restaurant. Numerous sign wording has been discussed. Will concluded the project is moving along but confirmation from ODOT is needed on several points.

#### **Transportation Grants for Improved Pedestrian Safety downtown**

Pat indicated she was working with the Germantown Traffic Engineering firm to apply for grant funds to make pedestrian safety crossing improvements at Main & Market; the Five Point Intersection on Farmersville Pike and Comstock & Farmerville.

The improvements would provide yellow traffic signs that would flash when a person would want to cross the intersection by using a mounted control. Judy indicated the cost would be approximately \$20,000 per set.

Pat indicated she would keep the committee up to date on the possible funding.

#### **Other Business**

Judy briefly reviewed the placing of the picnic tables in the city owned property on Center Street, and the request to vacate the alley next to the Florentine.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:16am.