

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
City of Germantown
January 19, 2023
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heidi Grant, Tom Winning, Mark Heistand

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

The meeting was called to order by Tom W at 9:02 am

Election of Chairperson for 2023

Tom W opened the floor for nominations for Chairperson. Mark H nominated Tom W and Heidi G seconded. The Committee unanimously voted for Tom as Chairperson.

Election of Vice-Chairperson for 2023

Tom W nominated Mark H as Vice Chair, Heidi G seconded. The Committee unanimously voted Mark as Vice-Chairperson.

Set Meeting Dates and Times

The meeting date was set to remain the same; the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00 am.

Approval of the Minutes

Tom W motioned to approve the previous meetings minutes. The motion was passed.

Review of DORA

Will P and Tom W will be attending the Parks Board meeting on Feb 1 in order to answer any questions or address concerns, especially as it pertains to Veterans Memorial Park being included in the proposed DORA.

Will P also gave an update to the Committee that the DORA application will be submitted to City Council for the February Council Meeting, which will then begin the legislative process. The first reading of the ordinance creating the DORA would be at the following Council Meeting in March.

Update on Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)

Will P submitted the remaining necessary materials to Mike Robinette the week prior in order for them to be submitted to the State of Ohio. No updates have been received as of yet. Will will also be working on a mockup of a flier for the City to distribute to individuals interested in taking advantage of the CRA.

Quarterly Newsletter for 2023

The City is set to move to an 8-page, quarterly newsletter starting this coming April. The City has met with a printer to get a quote and has a draft schedule and table of contents currently prepared. Several community partners have also been communicated with in order to update them on the plans as well as to recruit them to help contribute content to the newsletter.

Redevelopment Plan for Downtown – Proposal Review Process

Pat H provided an update on the Redevelopment Plan. There were 9 proposals received, all of which were very impressive. The City is currently in the process of reviewing each proposal using a common evaluation sheet. Pat then distributed the evaluation sheet as well as the process timeline and list of firms which submitted proposals to the Committee to view.

Using this evaluation sheet, 2 to 3 firms will be selected to interview. On top of Judy G, Will P, and Pat H; there will ideally be 2 more members from the Committee who will also evaluate the proposals. Tom W and Heidi G both volunteered to help evaluate the proposals.

Pat shared that on top of the evaluation sheets, the firms will also be vetted on their past work by looking at past projects and perhaps reaching out to other communities in the SW Ohio region that have worked with these firms.

List of Germantown Businesses – City Wide and Downtown

There used to be a list for the downtown business walk, but it had become out of date. With the Redevelopment Plan in mind, Pat H has created an updated list. There is a list that includes the entire city and one that is exclusively downtown businesses. Pat asked the Committee members to look over the list to ensure there isn't anyone being left out.

Other Business

The Committee discussed getting banners honoring Germantown veterans made. Other communities in the region have done so which have been very warmly received. It was said that it would be good if this could be a Veterans Memorial Museum initiative that was assisted by the City. The idea would be further considered at a later date.

Tom W called for a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was approved at 9:58 am