

CITY OF BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(DDRC) MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2017 4:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mayor Mark Eckert	Excused
Alderman Ken Kinsella, Chairman	Present
Jeff Renner	Excused
Geri Boyer	Present
Michael Nester	Excused
Steve Hemmer	Present
Chuck Blanquart	Present
John Conkright	Present

STAFF:

Annissa McCaskill, Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department Director
Jamie Maitret, Finance Director
Eric Schauster, Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department Assistant Director

GUESTS:

Michael Hagberg
Alderman Pusa, Ward 2
Alecia Slocomb, Belleville Main Street

The meeting of the Downtown Development/Redevelopment Committee (DDRC) was scheduled at 4:00 p.m. in the Belleville Main Library, 121 E. Washington St.

Chairman Kinsella called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and explained the emergency procedures.

Chairman Kinsella asked if there were any corrections to be noted for the July 25, 2016 meeting minutes. No changes were made, hence the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item #2 was discussed first, followed by item #1.

1. Discuss 2017 budget

Ms. Maitret asked that the Committee finalize the budget as soon as possible; she explained their expenditures and stated that the utility fees are rising.

The Committee asked Mr. Schauster to bring an update to the next meeting on the number of properties that would be eligible in the Special Service district, but not in TIF, in the downtown area for facade improvements.

There was a discussion held on a previously approved project. Mr. Schauster stated that he will contact the applicant to get a status update.

A discussion was held on the budget line item for police patrols for downtown events. Ms. Slocomb of Belleville Main Street, explained their role as well.

A member recommended more money be added to the Marketing budget. Ms. McCaskill stated that the City is periodically approached by organizations like the IL and STL Business Journal's to place an advertisement on Belleville. The Committee asked to review these requests to see if it would fall into their Marketing budget. They also discussed television advertisements. A member recommended that the City hire a company to create a professional brochure on Belleville.

The Committee made the decision to approve the following changes to the 2017 budget:

Utilities-\$15,000.00
Liability Insurance-\$3, 355.00
Facade Improvement-\$5000.00
Marketing-\$3000.00
Belleville Main Street-\$10,000.00
Belleville Police Department-\$10,000.00
Total=\$46, 355.00

A motion was made by Steve Hemmer to APPROVE the 2017 budget. It was seconded by Chuck Blanquart. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried. 5-0.

2. Review of 2016 Holiday Season

Mayor Eckert was not present at the meeting; the Committee decided to discuss the 2016 Holiday Season at the next scheduled meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

A member recommended that Mayor Eckert appoint a member of Belleville Main Street to be the next Chairman of the Downtown Development/Redevelopment Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was a discussion on the importance of good customer service, the several vacancies downtown and needing more retail stores to fill them, and making the vendors at the fairgrounds or like stores turn in sales tax.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business to discuss, Chairman Kinsella asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Hemmer. It was seconded by Geri Boyer. With all present members voting in the affirmative. Motion carried. 5-0.

Chairman Kinsella adjourned the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari L. Tutza
Economic Development, Planning & Zoning Department