

Public participation is invited on each agenda item prior to the Board's deliberation. **When called upon, please approach the microphone and state your name and the address where you live. Kindly limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.**

## **VILLAGE OF VILLA PARK**

**Village Hall, Committee of the Whole Room  
20 S. Ardmore Avenue  
Villa Park, IL 60181**

**Chairperson: Tony Oddo**

**Commissioners: Ghada Abdelhafez-Fahmy, Larry Calvedrt, Patrice Gallagher, Patrick Grobe,  
JP Hochbaum, Ethan Tutor-Leon**

### **Economic Development Commission**

**January 17, 2024**

**5:30 PM**

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- 1. Call to Order - Roll Call**
  - 2. Approval of Minutes**
    - a. Minutes November 15, 2023
  - 3. Business**
    - a. Business Retention Reports.
  - 4. Public Comments**
  - 5. Commissioner Comments**
  - 6. Village Board Liaison Comments**
  - 7. Adjournment**

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## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES**

**November 15, 2023**

The meeting of the Economic Development Commission was called to order November 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Tony Oddo, Patrick Grobe, Ethan Tudor-Leon, and JP Hochbaum.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Matt Harline, Village Manager.

**PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

None.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

The minutes for the Economic Development Commission for September 20, 2023, were approved. Motion to accept the minutes made by Commissioner Grobe and seconded by Commissioner Hochbaum and passed with all ayes.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION/BUSINESS:**

Business Retention Visits was the first topic. Commissioner Hochbaum visited Lunar Brewery and had a discussion for about 1 hour. They are still recovering from Covid financially, He does not understand why the windows need to be covered all the time as he just replaced them. There seems to be "old" rules for taverns and would like to see things updated and additional parking on St. Charles Road.

Commissioner Oddo has not had any luck with visits, will try a few different businesses. He would like to see some kind of introduction letter put together. Drop-in seems to be the best way.

Discussion moved to revising the Commission's Mission Statement. Village Manager read the duties of the commission from the Municipal Code, Chapter 2 Article 2801, which is available on the village website. The commission agreed to review and present ideas for revising the statement, the code needs to streamline the powers and duties to be attainable goals and objectives.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

None.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hochbaum visited Lunar Brewery; they are having hard times recovering from COVID. They would like to see parking on St. Charles Road (like York Road in Elmhurst) and would like to see some updates to the code regarding taverns and breweries. He was in contact with another business that is looking for a larger place.

Commissioner Tutor-Leon would like to continue the business retention visits and will review Chapter 2 Article 280 for updating the code with obtainable and measurable goals. Also, would be interested in attending the Grand Openings.

Commissioner Oddo; Still no luck visiting Sara O'Brien Photography or University Dermatology and Aesthetics. Will move on to different businesses. He would like to write a letter to present the businesses. Would like to work on the Mission Statement for this commission. He feels the commission needs to do something more substantial.

Commissioner Grobe: Is excited to update the EDC Mission statement.

**VILLAGE BOARD LIAISON COMMENTS:**

Village Manager, Matt Harline there was a meeting on Commissions, unfortunately it was rescheduled to another date. Trustees do want to take advantage of information from all the commissions. The business retention visits should continue and aim for both large and small ones, and new or established businesses. The commission can propose changes to the code, which then would be presented to the village board. Changes could benefit businesses.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Commissioner Tudor-Leon and seconded by Commissioner Grobe. The motion passed with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Pat Boksha