

Village of Belleville  
Community Economic and Development Committee  
Minutes  
May 12, 2011  
Village Hall

Present: Howard Ward, Herb Blaser, Paul Lawinger, Johann Veeneman, Jim Schmitz, Jerry Jansen, Scott Hayes, Keith Lehnherr, and Rick Francois

Excused Absence: Mike O'Connor and Randi MacLeod

Meeting called to order by Chair, Judy Bacha at 7:02 AM.

Judy Bacha introduced the new member to our committee, Johan Veeneman. Johan provided a short biography on himself and his family. Welcome!

Scott Hayes moved to approve the April 14, 2011 minutes as written. Keith Lehnherr seconds the motion.

An update of findings on available commercial property was given. Jerry Jansen stated the Dayton Hideaway is available for sale in the Exeter Township. Herb Blaser relayed that Christian Bros owned an empty lot next to their business which they would consider selling all or a portion of. Jim Kniffen also has an empty lot facing Highway 69 and the Francois' have a lot next to Town Mart. Scott Hayes informed the committee members that he has a meeting scheduled to meet with Lee Walsh, a broker, on the old Ace Hardware store. Scott will relay his findings at the next meeting. Howard Ward informed the members that an offer to purchase the Rasmussen Insurance building on Main Street was submitted by Middleton Community Bank. Skip Fahey would continue to do business in that building. Dana Duppler owns a building in Paoli which is up for sale.

Scott Hayes reported to the committee his findings in his search of area community websites which provided a page dedicated to economic development. Scott recommended the members look at the Waunakee site as a starting place for the committee to obtain ideas for the Belleville website. Scott offered to obtain the name of the web designer which his company uses in the development of their site. Judy offered to have a conversation with April to obtain her input on her search for a web designer.

The Village is looking into obtaining a marketing intern whose responsibilities would include working on the Village website, as well as, setting up the page which covers available commercial property in the area.

The members can to the consensus that the committee's first area of concentration be the west side, the redevelopment of downtown, and the north side. According to Rick

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Francois Belleville grew 25% over the last 10 years. Jim Schmitz offered to schedule a meeting with the new CEO of Landmark to open discussions on the Landmark property on the railroad corridor.

Jerry Jansen reminded the members of the upcoming GCDC meeting held in Belleville on June 16, 2011 at 7:30 AM. Judy Bacha volunteered to check with April to book a room at the Village Hall that morning.

Herb Blaser moved to adjourn. Scott Hayes seconds the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Bacha, Chair

