Meeting Minutes  
Friday, January 25, 2013  
Kendall County Board Room

Call to Order
The Economic Development Committee met at 8:30am and was called to order by Dan Koukol, Chairman of the Kendall County Economic Development Committee.

Roll Call
Members Present: Dan Koukol, Judy Gilmour, Lynn Cullick, Amy Cesich, and Matt Prochaska (arrived 9:00am)
Members Absent: None

Mr. Koukol announced that Mr. Prochaska would be arriving at a later time because he was attending a Kendall County Housing Authority meeting.

Staff Present: John Sterrett, Economic Development Coordinator, and Eric Weis, State’s Attorney
Also Present: Jim Teckenbrock, Executive Director of the Sandwich Economic Development Corporation, Charlene Coulombe-Fiore, Executive Director of the Montgomery Economic Development Corporation, and Dave Demiduk of Emerson Creek Pottery

Approval of Agenda
Ms. Gilmour made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cullick, to amend the agenda to discuss the Timber Creek topic before the Local EDC Membership presentations. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes
Ms. Cullick made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cesich, to approve the December 28, 2012 meeting minutes. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

New Business
Timber Creek – State’s Attorney Eric Weis
State’s Attorney Eric Weis was present to discuss lot 6 of Timber Creek development, which is a retention pond within the development. This is the last piece of collateral the County currently holds for the WB Holdings loan. There is little value to the lot and if the County took ownership of the lot, the pond would require maintenance by the County involving certain costs. Mr. Weis explained that if the County does not want to keep lot 6 any longer, they may withdraw their interest and give the lot back to the bank. Mr. Weis stated that although the County’s liability over the pond may be limited there are still costs and possible litigation involved if an incident occurred on the property. Mr. Weis was seeking direction from the Committee on how they wish to proceed so he can obtain further information on what the County’s options are and present to the full County Board. The Committee did not express an interest in keeping this lot.

Revolving Fund FOIA Rules
Mr. Weis brought up the topic of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and how it pertains to applications for the Revolving Fund that have been filed with the County. Mr. Weis stated that once something is filed with the County it becomes public record and will then be subject to FOIA laws, unless it can be demonstrated that certain pieces of information within the application are exempt from FOIA. Personal information, such as phone numbers, social security numbers, and driver license numbers are exempt from FOIA as are trade secrets of a business. Preliminary reviews are at times exempt from FOIA until it becomes part of the official record. Mr. Weis encouraged that staff work with the State’s Attorney’s Office when an application may be requested by a FOIA request.
Kendall County
Economic Development Committee

Introductions
Prior to going into the next topic, Mr. Koukol asked everyone to introduce themselves including the Committee members, staff, EDC directors, and members of the public.

Local Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Memberships
Sandwich EDC – Mr. Jim Teckenbrock, executive director of the Sandwich Economic Development Corporation, provided some background and history of the Sandwich EDC. Mr. Teckenbrock described some of the projects going on in Sandwich including the new cancer center. Mr. Teckenbrock also commented on how the recession has affected the City of Sandwich and how the recovery efforts have been in coming out of the recession.

Montgomery EDC – Ms. Charlene Coulombe-Fiore, executive director of the Montgomery Economic Development Corporation described the history of the MEDC, which started in 2003, and explained the structure of the MEDC, which is similar to the SEDC, and that the funding for the MEDC initially comes from private sector and the Village of Montgomery as well as other public entities, such as the County. Ms. Coulombe-Fiore spoke of her career with economic development and how she began working in the industry and also commented on her experience working within county government. Ms. Coulombe-Fiore also commented on the recession and how it has affected the entire area and other projects going on in the area.

Old Business
Revolving Fund Financial Assistance Program
Status of Existing Loans-Mr. Sterrett went through the existing loans with the Committee and explained that he recently submitted the semi-annual report of the Revolving Fund with the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity.

History of Previous Loans-Mr. Sterrett handed out a spreadsheet that included all of the loans the County has given out since it established a revolving fund from the Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) grant. Mr. Koukol suggested that the Committee review and let Mr. Sterrett know if they had any questions.

Application & Recapture Strategy-Mr. Sterrett distributed the application for the Revolving Fund and went over the Recapture Strategy. Mr. Sterrett explained that the County is required to have a recapture strategy in place per the rules of the IL DCEO. This strategy was approved by DCEO in 2006.

Chairman’s Report
Mr. Koukol commented on the economic development activities taking place in South Dakota. There has been a large amount of activity occurring and a number of jobs being created as a result.

Mr. Koukol stated that the Village of Oswego has hired a new Economic Development Director for the Village - Vijay Gadde. Mr. Koukol would like to invite Mr. Gadde to an economic development committee meeting sometime in March or April to introduce him to the Committee.

Ms. Cesich brought up a fracking seminar that will be taking place soon and that it could be beneficial for committee members to attend.

Public Comment
Dave Demiduk from Emerson Creek Pottery was present to discuss his and his wife’s business near Oswego on Stephen’s Road, just off of Grove Road, which has been in existence for 13 years. Mr. Demiduk believes they will be growing in the future.
Executive Committee
None

Adjournment
With no further business to discuss, Ms. Cullick moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cesich. There being no objection, the Economic Development Committee, at 9:44 a.m., adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
John H. Sterrett
Recording Secretary