Kendall County
Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 22, 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
Members Absent: None
Other County Board Members Present: John Shaw (arrived 9:10am)
Staff Present: Jeff Wilkins, County Administrator, and John Sterrett, Economic Development Coordinator
Others Present: Mayor Bob Hausler of Plano, Dave Demiduk of Emerson Creek Pottery

Approval of Agenda
Ms. Cesich made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cullick, to approve the agenda as written. 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 January 25, 2013 meeting minutes. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

New Business
2013 Kendall County Job Resource Fair
Mr. Sterrett provided background of the history of the Kendall County Job Resource Fair to the Committee and described the process for the 2012 event. The job fair is part of the Kendall County Community Economic Development Plan and it is a collaborative effort between the County, the local EDCs, the Kendall County Health & Human Services Department and Waubonsee Community College. The first meeting to discuss the 2013 Kendall County Job Resource Fair took place on February 20th. The event will take place on Friday, June 7th. The next meeting will be held on March 20th. County staff will focus in the next month on recruiting employers to participate in the event.

International Economic Development Council Membership Invoice
Mr. Sterrett went over with the Committee the membership the County has with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and that the membership dues are $475. By being members of the IEDC, the County can receive various resources such as research, advice, newsletters, and webinar opportunities.

Certified Economic Developer Course
Mr. Koukol explained the certification that Mr. Sterrett is seeking to become a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) and the various courses required for this certification. Mr. Sterrett stated that the closest available course to take in 2013 is in Madison, Wisconsin in May. Mr. Sterrett provided the Committee with a breakdown of estimated costs for attending this seminar. Ms. Gilmour asked what topics the course will cover during this two day class. Mr. Sterrett stated that the course will focus on Real Estate Redevelopment and Reuse and discuss various incentives used to help rehabilitate buildings and ‘brownfield’ development.

Revolving Fund Marketing Ideas
Mr. Sterrett discussed some of the existing ways in which the County markets its Revolving Fund Financial Assistance program. This includes having a section on the website with information and
providing it to businesses when going on business retention visits. Mr. Sterrett stated that perhaps in the coming months that discussions should begin on how to further market this program and focus on the importance of the program for small businesses.

**Old Business**

*Revolving Fund Loans Update*

Mr. Sterrett provided a brief update on the two existing loans with the County and that they have paid their monthly amount. Mr. Sterrett also stated he is working with the State on information for the Revolving Fund semiannual reports.

**Other Business**

*Kendall Area Transit*

Mr. Wilkins provided the Committee with the amount of worker rides given by the Kendall Area Transit (KAT) program. Mr. Wilkins discussed the value that KAT provides to those using the system to commute to work if they are unable to drive. Mr. Wilkins also stated that information for KAT is provided to local employers during business retention visits. The KAT system has been discussed for use by the Farnsworth House and a Bed & Breakfast in Plano to transport visitors to Plano who may not have driven and instead used Amtrak.

Mr. Wilkins also stated he received the grant agreements from the State for the KAT system recently. This agreement was sent to the State’s Attorney’s Office for review. Because the agreements were received after the last Admin/HR Committee meeting, the agreement will be taken straight to the County Board so as not to delay the process in resubmitting the grant agreements. Mr. Wilkins wanted to make the Committee aware of this agreement process.

**Chairman’s Report**

Mr. Koukol discussed the Yorkville Area Chamber of Commerce annual dinner that he and Mr. Wilkins attended on February 21st and how it is good PR for the County Economic Development program. Mr. Koukol has also attended several Oswego Chamber events recently. Mr. Koukol briefed the Committee on the bi-monthly KEDA meeting that took place on February 21st with the local EDCs. Mr. Koukol also discussed briefly the TIF districts in the County.

Mr. Wilkins commented on a recent business retention visit that took place with a local small business.

**Public Comment**

Dave Demiduk from Emerson Creek Pottery was present and discussed his expansion project at Emerson Creek and that they are working with local officials on the expansion.

Mayor Hausler discussed some of the activities going on in Plano including some of the vacancies and infill taking place in the downtown area including such as the old hotel in Plano. Mr. Hausler stated that the transfer station will be discussed by the City in the next coming weeks.

**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 9:17 a.m., adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

*John H. Sterrett*

Recording Secretary