

## Westchester Economic Development Committee

Approved EDC Meeting Minutes- September 9, 2024

Call to Order: 4:38 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Darlene Barber, Jeannie Helgesen, Chairman Pastor Joe Mills, Stacy Hawkins-Armstrong; Village Representation Director of Community Development Jim Novosel, Trustee Robert Morales (not present), Village Manager Barry Krumstok

Updates from Director Community Development- Jim Novosel discussions included, LaLo's Mexican Restaurant final inspections are underway and the open date is tbd; Wing Snob Restaurant buildout has begun and should be open in 4-6 months, location 10350; another new business Oxford Insurance will be opening at 10352 Roosevelt Road; the Economic Commissioners new business cards are redesigned and on the way; discussions are being held regarding a new restaurant inside of the BP gas station located at 825 S. Mannheim Road; there will be a 911 Memorial held at the Village Hall, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am; October 5<sup>th</sup> the Grow Committee will be hosting a Tree Walk at 1:00pm; the annual Shred/E-waste Event will be held October 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00 noon at Enterprise Drive; September 14<sup>th</sup> Free Microchip/ Rabees Clinic will be held at the Village Hall; October 7<sup>th</sup> the Fire House will be hosting an Open House from 6:30-8:00pm; September 25<sup>th</sup> a Senior Health Fair will be held at Westchester Church from 10:00-2:00pm; and September 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a Hispanic Heritage Celebration from 6:00-8:00pm.

Active Agenda-

Motion to approve meeting minutes of the August 12, 2024 meeting by Jeannie Helgesen, second by Darlene Barber; all in favor, minutes unanimously approved.

New Business-

Discussions were held regarding future Business Spotlight: Chairman Mills finalized the draft for the October article spotlighting the 7 Business Districts; the next business spotlight slated for November, December, and January, were discussed.

Old Business-

Business Owner of Sha-Poppin Gourmet Popcorn Stacy Hawkins-Armstrong has been officially sworn in as new Economic Development Committee member.

Next Educational Event: Allison Muzal presenting "AMP UP YOUR BUSINESS" on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> located at the Westchester Public Library's Community Room, lunch will be provided by Alpine's Banquet.

District Updates: Reassignment of Business District Liasons were designated- Addison Creek and Municipal- Darlene Barber; Prairie and Tower- Jeannie Helgesen; Fountain- Stacy Hawkins- Armstrong; Historic, Highridge, Tower- Pastor Joe Mills; also Jeannie Helgesen mentioned the problem with refugees soliciting in the Prairie District near the Huntington Bank entrance has been addressed by the Westchester Police Department; Darlene Barber mentioned her ongoing concerns about the blighted

Addison Creek District, and suggested maybe the Village could consider enhancing the area by installing brighter street lights.

Investigating Actual Owners of Physical Businesses- This is remains and ongoing issue, as far as locating the property owners.

Business Cards: Jim Novosel cards are be finalized for print.

Public Participation- Residents Leann Pettis made mention of a new business called "New Toys" located in the Fountain District; also wanted to know how to identify businesses that are for sale.

Note: Pastor Joe requested permission to cancel the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting due to medical issues related to his mom, all committee members agreed; the next EDC meeting will be held November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Meeting Adjourn 5:52 pm by, Stacy Hawkins- Armstrong, second by Darlene Barber; all in favor, meeting adjourned.