



## **Hammond Economic Development Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes – March 26, 2014**

A meeting of the Hammond Economic Development Commission was called to order at 9:02 am on Wednesday, March 23, 2014. The meeting was held at the Department of Planning & Development, 649 Conkey Street, Hammond, IN, 46324.

#### **Members Present**

Richard Blastic, President  
Bonnie Henry, Vice President  
John Vezmar, Secretary  
Monica Rubio, Member

There was a quorum.

#### **Others Present**

Africa Tarver, Director of Economic Development  
Nicole Bennett, Attorney for Westland Kramer and Bennett  
Anne Anderson, Recording Secretary

#### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Blastic at 9:02am.

#### **II. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

#### **III. Communications**

Director of Economic Development Africa Tarver stated there was no new communications.

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Vice President Henry to approve the minutes from December 2, 2013 meeting; Commissioner Vezmar seconded it. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

#### **V. Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **VI. New Business**

Up for new business is the appointment of a new commissioner, Monica Rubio, from First Midwest Bank. Welcome to Monica.

There is one more commission member to be appointed by the City Council. It will fill the empty spot left by Belia Ybarra, who resigned from the Economic Development Commission on March 11, 2014.

There is one position of Secretary, vacated by former commissioner Charles Pettersen, which needs to be filled. Commissioner Vezmar volunteered himself as Secretary for the remainder of the term, one year. Congratulations went out to Secretary Vezmar. President Blastic thanked Charles Pettersen for his efforts and commitment to the Commission.

Regarding new developments in the City, Ms. Tarver shared updates at Oxbow Landing. Buffalo Wild Wings and Hampton Inn are planning on building there and there will be a new access road built in the spring through the development. The Planning and Development Department is also actively pursuing other leads for that area. The department is also attending the ReCon event in Las Vegas in May and is lining up appointments with brokers to showcase some of Hammond's properties and incentives. The Hessville Business Association has been re-established and they will meet monthly in order to work on the needs of Hessville's business owners and citizens. The Mayor's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Job Fair will be on April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Jean Shepherd Community Center from 11am to 3pm.

There was no more new business.

#### **Public expression**

There was no public expression.

#### **Adjournment**

A call for adjournment was made by Vice President Henry. Commissioner Rubio seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). The meeting of the Hammond Economic Development Commission adjourned at 9:23am.

Approved and signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014.

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RICHARD BLASTIC, PRESIDENT

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JOHN VEZMAR, SECRETARY

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ANNE ANDERSON, RECORDING SECRETARY