



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CITY OF HAMMOND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
held on February 03, 2025

The Hammond Economic Development Commission held a meeting on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held Hammond City Council Chamber Room 209 and via Zoom on link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240793278?pwd=UEVoL3Q4eU9XK1hIU0RpaExZaE5HZz09> with telephonic option at 312 626 6799 Meeting ID: 892 4079 3278

1) **Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Vezmar at 9:06 a.m.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Members Present

- John Vezmar, President
- Monica Rubio, Vice President
- Alexius D. Barber, Secretary, via Zoom
- Susan Stevens, Commissioner

Absent

There was a quorum.

Others Present

- Anne Taylor, Executive Director of Planning and Development
- Juan J. Moreno, Director, Economic Development
- Nicole Bennett, Attorney for Economic Development Commission (Westland & Bennett PC)
- Melissa A. Campbell, Recording Secretary
- Bob Migliorini, Cardinal Mechanical Services

4) **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5) **Communications**

Juan J. Moreno, Director of Economic Development read a letter from Lake County Council dated January 27, 2025 reappointing John Vezmar to Hammond Economic Development Commission for a four-year term.



6) Approval of Minutes

Vice President Rubio made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted from meeting held on December 2, 2024, Commissioner Stevens seconded the motion.

Roll Call:	Commissioner Stevens	Yes
	Secretary Barber	Yes
	Vice President Rubio	Yes
	President Vezmar	Yes

Yeas: 4

Nays: 0

Abs: 0

Motion carried

7) Old Business

There was no old business.

8) New Business

a. Election of Officers:

Commissioner Vezmar opened nominations for: President, Vice President, and Secretary.

Commissioner Rubio made a motion to nominate the current officers to the same position they are currently serving, seconded by Commissioner Stevens.

President Vezmar asked if the current officers are good with keeping their current positions.

Secretary Barber stated that she is fine with it, but wanted to open up the Secretary position to other members.

Commissioner Stevens stated she would be interested in being Secretary if it helps the board.

Vice President Commissioner Monica Rubio withdraw her motion.

Vice President Rubio made a motion to nominate Susan Stevens as Secretary, seconded by President Vezmar.

There were no other nominations.

Roll Call:	Secretary Stevens	Yes
	Commissioner Barber	Yes
	Vice President Rubio	Yes
	President Vezmar	Yes

Yeas: 4

Nays: 0

Abs: 0

Motion carried



Vice President Rubio made a motion to nominate John Vezmar as President and Monica Rubio as Vice-President, seconded by Commissioner Stevens.

- President- Commissioner John Vezmar.
- Vice President- Commissioner Monica Rubio.

There were no other nominations.

Roll Call:	Secretary Stevens	Yes
	Commissioner Barber	Yes
	Vice President Rubio	Yes
	President Vezmar	Yes

Yeas: 4

Nays: 0

Abs: 0

Motion carried

b. Economic Development Updates:

Director Moreno gave the following Economic Development updates:

- Prestige 2.0 – On January 7, 2025 – Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce had a ribbon cutting ceremony for Prestige 2.0, a medical facility located at 7134 Calumet Avenue Hammond, IN.
- Bonnie Henry resigned at the end of last year. She was a mayoral appointee. Mayor McDermott has appointed Bob Migliorini. He will be sworn in and ready to attend the next meeting.
- The Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration took place on January 20, 2025. Very well attended.
- Next Mayor's Night Out will be on March 12th in the second district at HAST school.
- A new coffee and pastry shop will be opening at 2205 169th St.
- Townplace Suites in the Marina District will be breaking ground in June 2025, starting with demoing an existing car wash and hopefully opening up in early 2026.
- The Black History Month celebration will take place on February 6th at the Hammond Civic Center.
- February 17th, City Hall will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day.
- The Whiting-Robertsdale Chamber will have an installation dinner on February 7th at Dynasty Banquet.
- On February 20th, the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce will have their annual awards dinner at the Horseshoe Casino. Eight Hammond businesses will receive awards.



President Vezmar asked if the coffee shop is going in the old sub shop location.

Director Moreno indicated that it will be located a couple buildings west of the old sub shop.

President Vezmar stated he is looking forward to seeing it open up there.

President Vezmar stated he would like to see more shops like this on 173rd Street.

The Commissioners welcomed Bob Migliorini to the board.

9) Public Expression

There was no public expression.

10) Call for Adjournment

Vice President Rubio made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Barber.

Roll Call:	Secretary Stevens	Yes
	Commissioner Barber	Yes
	Vice President Rubio	Yes
	President Vezmar	Yes

Yeas: 4

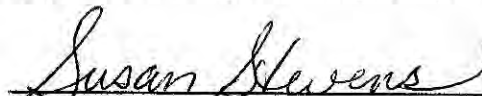
Nays: 0

Abs: 0


Motion carried

The Economic Development Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

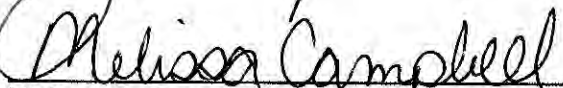
Approved and signed this 2nd day of February, 2026.



Susan Stevens, Secretary



John Vezmar, President



Melissa A. Campbell, Recording Secretary



2025 Hammond Economic Development Commission attendance record of Electronic and Physical Presence.

Commissioner	02/03/25			
John Vezmar	P			
Monica Rubio	P			
Alexius D. Barber	E			
Susan Stevens	P			
Initials				

- E- Electronic
- P- Present
- A- Absent

If the Commissioner qualifies for an exemption from "Consecutive 50" requirements draw a circle around the E for that meeting / member. Reference to Economic Development Commission Resolution No. 2021-2

