

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
City of Germantown
April 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heidi Grant, Tom Winning, Mark Heistand, Mike Kuhn

ALSO PRESENT: Will Parsons, Community Relations Manager; Pat Higgins, Economic Development and City Grant Writer; Keith Brane, Planning Consultant; Judy Gilleland, City Manager; Kathryn Youra Polk, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

CONSULTANTS (Downtown Redevelopment Plan): Nick Davis, Small Nation; Kathleen Norris, Urban Fast Forward; John Yung, Urban Fast Forward; Jeff Raser, Cincinnati Urban Design and Architecture

The meeting was called to order by Tom W at 9:04 am

Approval of the minutes

Tom W motioned to approve the minutes from the March meeting, this motion was unanimously approved.

Updates on Stakeholder Meetings

There have been 8 official stakeholder meetings, as well as many informal conversations. The consultants have been very pleased with the candor they have experienced in these conversations.

The Chamber of Commerce breakfast for local businesses was held April 17th, with about 15 participants present. There was a good mix of long-time and new business owners. The consulting team also met with local organizations and institutions, as well as property owners. The team will soon be meeting with City staff in order to discuss the permitting process as well as street maintenance.

Structure of Plan

Recommendations given to the City will come in 3 different categories:

- Physical changes
- Policies/Programs
- Marketing

One area stressed as important was finding better ways to assist small businesses in understanding regulations and processes.

The relationship between the public and private sectors in the actual implementation of the strategies being crafted.

DORA Update

Legislation was passed at the April City Council Meeting allowing the City of Germantown to create a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area in downtown Germantown. The signs for the boundary markers have been designed and ordered. The City is still waiting for the State of Ohio to finish their responsibilities in response to the application which was submitted. The DORA Committee is optimistic that the DORA can be up and running by early June.

ED/GE Grant – Dupps Co.

The presentation for the ED/GE grant will be taking place on Monday, April 24. Representatives from the Dupps Company will be in attendance with City staff members.

This proposal, if selected, would create a dozen new jobs and retain over 170. The funds would flow through the City of Germantown and the Dupps Co. would give the City reports on how the money is being spent. The funds would 100% go towards the construction of the new facility.

Pat H was also able to connect the Dupps Co. with the Montgomery County Port Authority.

Summer Quarterly Newsletter

The content for the Summer Quarterly Newsletter will be submitted for editing by May 3rd. These edits will then be submitted to the print and design team by early June. There have been many compliments received in regard to the new quarterly format. There are still some parts of this new system that are being worked on by the City, but the first edition went well.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am