

Economic Development Committee

City of Germantown

July 20, 2023 - Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Tom Winning, Heidi Grant, Mark Heistand and Mike Kuhn.

Also Present: Judy Gilleland, City Manager; Pat Higgins, Economic Development; Keith Brane, City Planner; Will Parsons, Community Relations Manager; Kathryn Youra Polk, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission; Jeff Raser, Cincinnati Urban Design and Architecture; Kathleen Norris, Urban Fast Forward; John Yung, Urban Fast Forward; Jason Duff, Small Nation; and Nick Davis, Small Nation.

The meeting was called to order by Tom Winning at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of minutes

Mark Heistand motioned to approve the minutes for the June meeting. Approved by voice vote.

Downtown Redevelopment Plan Update

Mr. Raser asked Committee Members for broad impressions regarding the Downtown Redevelopment Plan draft. Collective responses were as follows:

- To-Do list for the plan is warranted.
- How to organize everything to move forward
- Structuring plan to understand how to read, implement and track progress, including the implementation matrix.
- Plan provides a chance for substantial progress.
- Funding and a full time person are necessary.
- Solicit community involvement and begin with easiest projects to initially project progress.

Other topics included private investment, a transition outline, setting priorities, methods to raise capital/funding and promoting community awareness.

Judy thanked the redevelopment team for all of the work and the great vision for the community. She confirmed the three pillars as being the City of Germantown, Volunteers including the Chamber and consultants working together to move forward.

Jeff stated that the report is 90% completed with time remaining to provide input. A brief discussion ensued confirming the need to attract new businesses, increase the traffic downtown and entice business owners to participate.

Possible quick actions to show progress could be development of "streeteries", painting of buildings, traffic flow changes and increased signage to draw people downtown.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.