

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Monday, October 17, 2022 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. Brooks called meeting to order at 6:07pm

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Chair James Brooks	P	Com. Dev. Director Colette Spranger
Ben Ladick, Vice Chair	A	Bill Lathrop, Evansville Today
Jon Alling	P	
Abbey Barnes	P	
Sue Berg	P	
Brandon Rutz	P	
Vacant		

3. Motion to Approve Agenda by Rutz, seconded by Barnes, approved unanimously.

4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the September 19, 2022 meeting and approve them as printed by Rutz, seconded by Barnes, approved unanimously.

5. Civility Reminder. Brooks reminded the committee of the City’s commitments to civil discourse.

6. Citizen Appearances, other than listed agenda items. None

7. Monthly Report

A. Community Development Update. Spranger gave the report. Dollar General is now open for business. There are a few remaining items left for the construction crew to finish; the City has a performance bond for that remaining work, which includes fixing the sidewalk so that water does not pool and potentially freeze on it. Plan Commission approved a condition use permit for Slice Golf, which will bring foot traffic to downtown. Sienna Crest, an assisted living facility, received zoning approval on the west side of the city in anticipation of a new memory care and assisted living facility. There have been inquiries from potential buyers regarding the Kelly House. Another café is anticipated at 137 E Main. There is no potential buyer yet for the Grove Market, though there has been interest.

B. Chamber of Commerce Report. No report.

C. Tourism Commission Report. Berg gave the report. The first mural has been installed and another is underway, slated for the western wall of 1 E Main and to feature Evansville’s circus past.

8. Discussion.

- A. Supporting the Chamber of Commerce.** Rutz and Barnes gave an update regarding how the Chamber is operating while it is without a director. Jill Paugel and Barnes attended a discussion with City and WEDC staff regarding the Main Street and Connect Communities programs, which could help the Chamber as it envisions a new direction for its future operation. The main shift for the organization is to be fewer fundraisers and more member benefit producing programming. The Chamber is open to collaborating with this program, as it could provide resources for such programming and networking.
- B. 2023 Meeting Location Schedule.** Discussion regarding possible locations to host on-location committee meetings at area businesses, either on a quarterly or every-other-month basis. Possible location include Palace Meets, Baker Manufacturing, Stoughton Trailers, Blue Scope, Evansville Manor, local car dealerships, and the school district.

9. Next Meeting Dates: Monday, November 21, 2022 at 6:00pm.

10. Motion to Adjourn by Berg, seconded by Rutz, approved unanimously.