

CITY OF GENOA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES

August 9, 2021 Special Meeting

Carolyn Tobinson called the special meeting of the City of Genoa Economic Development Commission to order at 2:30 PM.

On roll call, members Carolyn Tobinson, Nick Bradac, Dealynn Stone, and Josh Kubiak were present; Jock Sommese, and Alyssa Seguss, City of Genoa, Jennifer Groce, NIU, Paul Borek, DCEDC, Brent O'Daniell, GKCUSD, and Krissy Johnson, Genoa Area Chamber of Commerce were also present.

Ms. Stone moved and Mr. Bradac seconded to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2021 special meeting. Upon voice vote, all members present voted aye.

There being no old business, the Economic Development Commission moved to new business. The EDC discussed takeaways from the July 27, 2021 meeting and also discussed sun setting resources, immediate attraction issues, stakeholder groups, and how to get momentum going.

The EDC also discussed the Comprehensive Plan and the updates needed. The EDC discussed needing a plan and direction for moving forward. Ms. Tobinson also stated that there needs to be a solid inventory of properties and buildings available. This inventory should be accompanied by a study of the business climate in Genoa. There was a discussion on what are necessities in each community such as grocery stores, gas stations, banks, hardware stores, and also what experiences each community should have. There was a question as to what businesses have moved here.

The EDC discussed the possibility of creating a space for cottage industries to open on a short term basis. There was a discussion on possibly partnering with the School District on the Comprehensive Plan. The EDC also noted that it is important to know who the stakeholders of the community are whether businesses, business owners, residents, etc.

Mr. Sommese asked the EDC to create a list of 5 leaders who the City needs to be aware of. Mr. Sommese also asked the EDC to review the mission statement of the EDC and provide feedback. Mr. O'Daniell reported that he would share documents from the School District's Comprehensive Plan Update. Mr. Borek reported that he would be compiling information from DCEDC in regards to which businesses have moved to DeKalb County in recent years as well as target industries data.

There was a discussion on the next meeting. It was scheduled for September 13th at 2:30 PM.

There being no further business for discussion, Ms. Stone motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Kubiak. Upon voice vote, all members present voted aye.