

**City of Darien**  
**Minutes Economic Development Committee**  
**\*\*Rescheduled Meeting\*\***  
**Thursday, January 12, 2023**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM. Committee members present were Jonathan Christ, Lou Mallers, Tom Papais, and Bob Taft. Also present was Alderperson Mary Sullivan and City Planner Jordan Yanke.

**2. Public Comment**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2022**

Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**4. New Business**

**a) Business Liaison & Recruitment Coordinator**

**i. Summary, Duties, & Responsibilities**

City Planner Jordan Yanke introduced the agenda item and informed the Committee that Lou Mallers was hired for the new position. Committee member Lou Mallers provided a more detailed introduction to the new position and the duties and tasks that come with the hiring. Discussion ensued amongst the Committee and support shown for how the position will help bolster business outreach, recruitment, and retention.

**b) Review of Business Resource Guide**

Per Committee direction, a template for a Business Resource Guide was included in the packet and discussed. Feedback given focused on shortening the resource guide to a front/back type document and to include testimonials/referrals from existing businesses in the community so prospective business owners and people looking at the resource guide can see them.

## 5. Old Business

### a) Previous Follow Up/Hanging Matters

#### i. Revisiting Concept Plan Ideas/Next Steps

The Committee agreed this topic should continue to appear on the agenda, with other development ideas around the City as well. Sentiment was that the Committee should continuously evaluate and discuss the key development areas, concept plans, and other development ideas moving forward so momentum is not lost.

#### ii. EDC Member Updates

A brief conversation took place regarding the potential incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce into the City. Members discussed the fact that this topic was on the next City Council meeting for the elected officials to discuss, which is slated for Monday, January 16, 2023.

#### iii. Staff Updates

None.

## 6. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023.

## 7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM.

---

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRPERSON**