

**MINUTES
CITY OF DARIEN
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
August 21, 2019**

PRESENT: Lou Mallers – Chairman, Michael Desmond, Robert Erickson, Brian Liedtke, Julie Kasprovicz, Ralph Stompanato, Steven Manning - City Planner

ABSENT: Robert Cortez, Brian Gay, Hilda Gonzalez

Chairperson Lou Mallers called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. at the City Hall – City Council Chambers, Darien, Illinois and declared a quorum present and swore in the audience members wishing to present public testimony.

REGULAR MEETING:

A. Comprehensive Plan

Chairperson Lou Mallers reported that the Comprehensive Plan was last updated in 2006. He stated that he would like to focus on how Darien can grow and attract new business.

Chairperson Mallers reported that the Economic Development Committee met and that the Comprehensive Plan was not discussed. He reported that the Committee will be meeting on September 11th and that Mr. Manos from Brookhaven will be in attendance to answer any questions regarding the area at Plainfield and Cass. Chairperson Mallers also reported that the Committee will be reaching out Darien residents to get feedback.

Commissioner Erickson stated that he read the Comprehensive Plan and wondered what role the ten-member committee played. He questioned how the data will be accumulated.

Chairperson Mallers reported that the survey to residents will be done through Monkey Survey and that the Mayor, Village Administrator and the Economic Development Committee will be involved. He stated that the PZC needs to come up with ideas on how to move forward. He questioned if the PZC could recommend a review of the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Kasprovicz stated that it appears that starting over is the most logical way to start.

Commissioner Desmond stated that Westmont is a good example and that going that direction may be a start.

Commissioner Liedtke stated that Darien needs an urban corridor and that Cass and Plainfield is a prime location. He stated that there needs to be short term and long-term planning.

Chairperson Mallers suggested inviting the Mayor to the PZC discussions.

Mr. Steve Manning, City Planner reported that the Park Ridge downtown area was failing and that they recruited a developer and hired a consultant and now downtown Park Ridge is the biggest revenue generator in the city.

Mr. Manning reported that the best way the PZC can move forward is to present ideas then hold a public hearing.

Commissioner Stompanato stated that there needs to be a full-time economic development group like what they have in Downers Grove.

Commissioner Liedtke questioned if there should be a motion that the PZC can see the site plan reviews.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Erickson made a motion and is was seconded by Commissioner Liedtke to approve the August 7, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

NEXT MEETING

Chairperson Mallers announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (On any topic related to planning and zoning)

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Liedtke made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Sullivan. Upon voice vote, THE MOTION CARRIED unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

APPROVED:

**Elizabeth Lahey
Secretary**

**Lou Mallers
Chairperson**

