

**MINUTES  
CITY OF DARIEN  
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETING  
August 7, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Lou Mallers, Chair, Michael Desmond, Robert Erickson, Bryan Gay, Hilda Gonzalez, Julie Kasprowicz, Brian Liedtke, Ralph Stomanato, Steven Manning - City Planner

**ABSENT:** Robert Cortez, Liz Lahey – Recording Secretary

1. Chairperson Lou Mallers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall – City Council Chambers, Darien, Illinois.
2. Hilda Gonzalez and Julie Kasprowicz were welcomed to their first meeting as new members of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**REGULAR MEETING:**

**3.A. Training**

Steven Manning reviewed the contents of the Darien PZC Manual of Procedures. He noted that this Manual was the culmination of many workshops held by the PZC starting in September 2017. The Manual has valuable information and is a good reference source for all matters pertaining to the PZC. He encouraged all members to bring their questions, comments, suggestions, and requests to the meeting and we will do our best to answer and if needed do further training.

**3.B. Comprehensive Plan**

Steven Manning reviewed the City website and the links provided to the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Code, City Council and PZC agendas and minutes, zoning applications, available commercial space inventory, Direct Connect newsletter, and much more. The website has valuable information and is a good reference source for all matters pertaining to the City. Requests for further information may be directed to staff.

He noted the Comprehensive Plan was last amended in 2006. The Plan is a guide that should be referenced when reviewing proposals and plans from private developers. One of the duties of PZC that is written into the City Code, Section 5A-2-1-4 (B) 3 and 4 is to ‘Initiate, direct, and recommend amendments to the Zoning Code and Comprehensive Plan’. The process of amending the Plan can also be an effective way to get communitywide consensus on what improvements should be made in Darien.

An Economic Development Committee was recently formed by City Council and will be looking for ways to improve the business climate and to retain, expand, and attract businesses. Bryan Gay and Lou Mallers are members of this new committee. Brian Liedtke suggested it may be time to update the Comprehensive Plan. Lou Mallers suggested it may be time for the PZC to meet with the City Council and the economic development committee to coordinate efforts.

There are three sites where developers have contacted the City and may be applying soon for zoning approval. PZC members said they wanted to continue this general discussion on the Comprehensive Plan.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Robert Erickson moved and Michael Desmond seconded a motion to approve the PZC minutes of the March 6 and March 20, 2019 meetings as presented. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING**

Scheduled for August 21, 2019.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:57, Ralph Stompanato moved and Brian Liedtke seconded a motion to adjourn. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

**APPROVED:**

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**Steven Manning**  
**Acting Recording Secretary**

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**Lou Mallers**  
**Chairperson**