

**AGENDA**  
**\*\*Rescheduled Meeting\*\***  
**Economic Development Committee**  
**Tuesday, December 19, 2023**  
**7:00 p.m. – Darien City Hall**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Approval of Minutes – November 9, 2023**
- 4. New Business**
  - a) Recap of Business Visits (Ward 4 & Ward 5) – (PAGE 4)**
    - i. Business List (Ward 4 & Ward 5)**
    - ii. Surveys & Feedback from Businesses**
  - b) Year-End Review & Objectives for 2024**
- 5. Old Business**
  - a) Monthly Update – Concept Plans & Key Areas**
- 6. Staff Updates & EDC Member Updates**
- 7. Next Scheduled Meeting – TBD**
- 8. Adjournment**

**City of Darien**  
**Minutes Economic Development Committee**  
**Thursday, November 9, 2023**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM. Committee members present were Bill Carpenter, Jon Christ, Lou Mallers, Tom Papais, Bob Taft, Matt Weberling, and Steve Wernecke. Also present were Alderman Gerry Leganski and City Planner Jordan Yanke.

**2. Public Comment**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes – October 5, 2023**

Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**4. New Business**

**a) Status Update – Business Visits by EDC**

**i. Business List (Ward 4 & Ward 5)**

**ii. Business Survey Suggestions**

**iii. Mission Statement & Incentive Overview**

Staff introduced item. Committee members provided their updates and feedback obtained from visiting the businesses in Ward 4 and Ward 5. Discussion ensued about what has gone well and where things can be improved/revised, such as the survey. Members are to provide final summary of their business visits to staff so feedback can be included for the next meeting packet.

**b) New Project Ideas for 2024**

Similar to prior meeting discussion the Committee discussed a need to implement more initiatives supported by the City Council to retain, attract, and enhance businesses. Another item to focus on should be beautification. It was noted that the City Council will discuss beautification opportunities at its Goal Setting Session the following week.

**5. Old Business**

**a) Monthly Update – Concept Plans & Key Areas Discussion**

City Planner Jordan Yanke stated there are no substantial updates on any of the key areas. The Committee was updated on current zoning/development cases.

**6. Staff Updates & EDC Member Updates**

Chairperson Papais gave update on Chamber of Commerce activities and events with specific reference to Casino Night.

**7. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2023.

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21PM.

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

## WARD 4 BUSINESSES

BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
Culvers	541 Plainfied Rd
Darien Sportsplex	451 Painfield Rd
McDonalds	809 Plainfield Rd
Teddy's Red Hots	737 Painfield Rd Unit 8
Patriot Gaming Darien VFW	801 Plainfied Rd #12
Modern Way Dry Cleaners	737 Plainfield Rd. #6
Pizzeria K LLC	737 Plainfield Rd, #4
Power Printing	737 Plainfield Rd. #9
Tizzy's Treats & Eats	737 Plainfied Rd.#2
Babba Grill	801 Plainfield Rd
Bua Thai Kitcen	737 Plainfield Rd. #7
D'Pelos Hair Salon	737 Plainfield Rd. #3
Eco Green Beauty	801 Plainfied Rd. #A
Eco Green Beauty B	801 Plainfield Rd # B
Darien Pantry	737 Plainfield Rd. #5
Hanan's Hair Salon	801 Plainfield Rd.

## WARD 5 BUSINESSES

BUSINESS NAME	ADDRESS
Circle K #4706713	8975 Lemont Rd
Hairs 2 You	2805 8rd Street 105
Hicx Solutions	8328 Lemont Rd
Kirtley Technologies	8328 Lemont Rd
American Sleep Medicine	2510 N. Frontage Rd
Chapo Construction	1535 N. Frontage Rd
Carriage Greens CC	8700 Carriage Green
Speedway #1425	10250 Lemont Rd
Wight & Co	2500 N. Frontage Rd

## DARIEN BUSINESS SURVEY

First and foremost, thank you for having your business in Darien. We appreciate you and want to do what we can to help you grow and succeed in your business. Please take a few moments to answer this brief survey for the City of Darien to better assist the business community.

1. What attracted you to open your business in Darien? *Inherited business*
2. How long have you had your business in Darien? *Since 1980*
3. What recommendations would you suggest to the City to further enhance the business community? *Less corporate / Chain businesses  
More independant.*
4. Would you recommend other types of businesses that would complement your business and/or the overall Darien community? *Possibly*
5. Are you aware of our Chamber of Commerce, and if not, would you consider being a part of it? *Yes we aware of the Chamber of Commerce.*
6. Would you be interested in attending Chamber "Lunch & Learns" or "After Hours" networking events at area establishments? *Not at this time.*
7. Are you aware of Economic Incentives and what would be most beneficial to you?  
*Yes, and at this time, nothing.*

Thank you for your time and input. The results of this survey will be presented to our Economic Development Committee for discussion and review.

Name of Business *Carriage Greens Country Club*

Your Name *Adriana Broderick*

Phone Number [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

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If submitting electronically, please direct completed surveys to the City of Darien's Economic Development Committee at: [EconomicDevelopment@darienil.gov](mailto:EconomicDevelopment@darienil.gov)

# DARIEN BUSINESS SURVEY

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1. What attracted you to open your business in Darien? } Live in Area{
2. How long have you had your business in Darien? 27 years
3. What recommendations would you suggest to the City to further enhance the business community? MORE GOOD RESTAURANTS - She WANTS MORE Non-Chinese Rest
4. Would you recommend other types of businesses that would complement your business and/or the overall Darien community?
5. Are you aware of our Chamber of Commerce, and if not, would you consider being a part of it? } ASKED FOR CHAMBER VISIT TO EXPLAIN VALUE.
6. Would you be interested in attending Chamber "Lunch & Learns" or "After Hours" networking events at area establishments? } NEVER BEEN INVITED
7. Are you aware of Economic Incentives and what would be most beneficial to you? NO!  
GAVE HER A COPY

Thank you for your time and input. The results of this survey will be presented to our Economic Development Committee for discussion and review.

Name of Business HANNA'S HAIR SALON

Your Name CLARA HO

Phone Number [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

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<Independent Living Citizens>

## DARIEN BUSINESS SURVEY

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1. What attracted you to open your business in Darien? > OWNED BY DARIEN VFW
2. How long have you had your business in Darien? > MID-2019 - RENEWED
3. What recommendations would you suggest to the City to further enhance the business community? > NEED TO THINK ABOUT, A LOT RIGHT ABOUT DARIEN  
- LACK OF CITY CENTER, HAPPY THAT DARIEN STAFF SUPPORTS BUSINESS
4. Would you recommend other types of businesses that would complement your business and/or the overall Darien community? > LOW LOW PATROL  
RESTAURANT  
KIDZ  
FOOT TRAFFIC
5. Are you aware of our Chamber of Commerce, and if not, would you consider being a part of it? > SENDING (NICK DARIEN)
6. Would you be interested in attending Chamber "Lunch & Learns" or "After Hours" networking events at area establishments?
7. Are you aware of Economic Incentives and what would be most beneficial to you? / rely on TAX

Thank you for your time and input. The results of this survey will be presented to our Economic Development Committee for discussion and review.

Name of Business PATRIOT GAMING DARIEN (VFW)

Your Name NICK DARIEN, TOWSTER VFW POST

Phone Number [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

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## DARIEN BUSINESS SURVEY

First and foremost, thank you for having your business in Darien. We appreciate you and want to do what we can to help you grow and succeed in your business. Please take a few moments to answer this brief survey for the City of Darien to better assist the business community.

1. What attracted you to open your business in Darien? *Location and lower taxes*
2. How long have you had your business in Darien? *13 years*
3. What recommendations would you suggest to the City to further enhance the business community? *Keep taxes competitive, reduce complexity of maintaining compliance with city regulations*
4. Would you recommend other types of businesses that would complement your business and/or the overall Darien community? *Can't think of any*
5. Are you aware of our Chamber of Commerce, and if not, would you consider being a part of it? *Yes / Yes*
6. Would you be interested in attending Chamber "Lunch & Learns" or "After Hours" networking events at area establishments? *Probably not*
7. Are you aware of Economic Incentives and what would be most beneficial to you? *No, but will take a look*

Thank you for your time and input. The results of this survey will be presented to our Economic Development Committee for discussion and review.

Name of Business *American Academy of Sleep Medicine*  
Your Name *Steve Van Hout*  
Phone Number   
E-Mail 

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## **FEEDBACK/COMMENTS FROM BUSINESS VISITS**

- The Darien Police Department is very helpful and stops in often to see how things are going.
- Darien is the best town been in since joining management.
- *Additional points to be added by EDC during meeting and going forward.*