

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
October 4, 2023**

A meeting of the Village of River Forest Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, Illinois.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Cuyler Brown, Commissioners Robert Graham, Tim Brangle, and Chiplunkar, Katie Lowes, and Walter Wahlfedt.

Absent: Commissioner Carr Preston.

Also Present: Village Administrator Matt Walsh and Assistant Village Administrator Jessica Spencer.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Brown and SECONDED by Commissioner Graham to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023 meeting (as amended). MOTION PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

**4. DEVELOPMENT UPDATES** Chairman Brown does not want to take the focus off the retail development. He wants to ensure that there is uniformity of signs, advertising, and messaging in current and future projects, for a professional look.

- A. Madison Street Development Site Promotion Discussion – Administrator Walsh provided an update on the Madison St project, including the almost completed installation of the fences. He confirmed that the fence installation has been discussed and the selection included the opinion of the nearby residents. There were questions about future landscaping options, Administrator Walsh stated that there are plans for landscaping and signage in the coming weeks. Discussion ensued regarding the direction of how best to market the site – via developers or seeking brokers first. The committee decided to develop an RFP seeking brokers to market this and other vacant Village sites.

B. Other Development Discussion – Administrator Walsh provided an update on Lake and Lathrop property, including the status of the clean-up that is occurring on site and the ongoing foreclosure process. He reported that there has been no further meeting or update regarding the North Avenue Streetscape since the last meeting of this committee. Chairman Brown asked who is responsible for the Lake and Lathrop property? Administrator Walsh clarified that the receiver is responsible for securing the site. Discussion ensued regarding the potential next steps for this property and the ongoing legal disputes.

## 5. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING BUSINESS COMMUNITY RETENTION/ SUPPORT STRATEGIES AND COMMUNICATION

Chairman Brown expressed that there have not been much participation with local businesses or the local Chamber of Commerce. Brown said that he wants to have someone from the Chamber present at future meetings to be sure that the businesses in the Village are represented, and Administrator Walsh agreed.

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

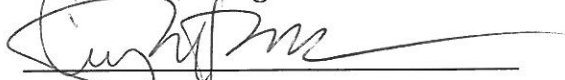
A MOTION was made by Commissioner Wahlfeldt and SECONDED by Commissioner Graham to adjourn the October 4, 2023, meeting of the Economic Development Commission at 6:58 p.m. MOTION PASSED by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Matt Walsh, Village Administrator

Date: 1/10/24

  
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Cuyler Brown, Chairman Economic Development Commission