

Observer Report

Council or Committee: Economic Development Committee

Date: 6/27/18

Observer: Julianne Dieterich

Meeting began: 7:38 pm

Meeting Ended: 8:45 pm

Committee Members Present: Wilson (chair), Rue Simmons, Braithwaite, Wynne (arrived a little late), Hecky Powell (at large), Jeannemarie Sierant (at large), Mary Beth Berns (Zoning Board of Appeals) (Absent: Rainey, Andrew Pigozzi (Plan Commission))

Staff Present: Paul Zalmezak, Cindy Plante

Media Present: Evanston Now

Citizen comment:

1. CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF May 23, 2018

3. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Entrepreneurship Grants

a. Aerospace Careers Network Resource

(\$2500) – Grant for start-up expenses for a company aiming to provide conferences/workshops/mentoring for parents interested in aviation/aerospace careers and to provide STEM training for grades 3-12 and workforce development programming for youth 18-25. Approved to advance to Council.

b. Hair Science (\$2500) – Support for equipment for salon that relocated to Howard St. from Dempster/Dodge. Owner completed Sunshine Enterprises program. Approved.

B. Storefront Modernization Projects

a. ORT Resale at 915 Chicago Ave. (\$1,500 to replace awning). This was presented at May meeting but held to June because the organization was not present. The committee would like them to improve the façade a bit more than was presented in the proposal; the organization was willing to explore that, so the proposal was held again. Wynne and staff will meet with the organization.

b. 10Q Chicken at 816 Church St. (\$3,400) – Signage for space previously occupied by Five Guys Burgers. (Owner of the previous BopNGrill on Chicago Ave.)

c. 1030 Davis Street (\$18,000) – Owners of Lulu's/Taco Diablo/Five and Dime also own the vacant building next door (corner of Davis and Oak). The grant is for significant façade improvements negotiated with prospective tenant. With amendment to make grant contingent on signing lease with the tenant, grant was approved.

d. Connections Health at 1824 Sherman Ave. (\$2,700) – Grant to make step more accessible at former Lou Malnati's space, which is converting to health offices. Approved.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Monthly Economic Development Communication

B. Announcements/Updates from EDC Members

Zalmezak announced that the department's 2018 budget will be mostly exhausted by next meeting, with exception of some funds remaining in the entrepreneurship grants program, so the focus of remaining meetings this year will shift toward planning. No August meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT