

CITY OF UNION
Economic Development Committee
March 22, 2017

Members in attendance:

Jeremy Ramage, Commissioner
Larry Solomon, Mayor
Kevin Costello, BCPC
Stephen Harper
Randy Barlow
Melissa Hinkle, Communications Coordinator

Chad Dickerson, citizen

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Commissioner Jeremy Ramage.

Construction Update: Commissioner Ramage provided updates on several city area projects

Kroger Construction Update: Ramage reported construction is progressing, with only a few issues arising from the recent storms in the Union area in early March. They are slated for an August opening date at this point.

St. Timothy's School: Ramage reported the construction is proceeding at a steady pace and appears to be ahead of schedule for a Fall open.

Boone Springs: This development is also moving forward as expected, with significant ground grading and road work. A new sign has been placed in front of the facility with a rendering of the final project, and a stated opening date of Fall 2018.

Mount Zion Road/KY 536: The City continues to receive updates from the Transportation Cabinet. The KYTC and the City, along with the Boone County Sheriff's Office are working together to address a recent citizen complaint regarding children climbing on the grubbed trees and timber still along the site, and also on the equipment being utilized by the construction crew. The City brought the matter to the attention of the Cabinet, who worked with the contractor to remove the trees as quickly as possible, and they have requested additional patrols by the Sheriff's Office of the construction area to discourage contact with any of the construction materials and equipment by children.

Public Comment: No member of the public came forth with comment. The group welcomed Chad Dickerson, a citizen attending the meeting. Dickerson is an area realtor with contacts in Kentucky and Florida, and has an interest in development issues.

Developer Packets and Prospects: Ramage updated that the City is still working with the contact list and will be coordinating with Kevin Costello of the Boone County

Planning Commission to look at pursuing additional developers for the Union Town Center Project. Costello indicated that there were potentially new developers that could be contacted to gauge interest in the project. Ramage will follow up and report on the matter at the next meeting.

BCPC Update: Kevin Costello updated the group on several projects in the area. There will be a grading project coming before the group to utilize an area property to dispose of excess fill dirt from the Mt. Zion construction project. The BCPC is working with Kroger to address an issue between the new construction and the Union Villages subdivision. With the destruction of the white vinyl fence separating the two properties, the BCPC is working with the residents and Kroger to establish a new fence and address unsightly brush between the two properties. There is another development that is looking to move forward with a zoning change request, and has tentatively scheduled a public hearing for April 4, and will hold a community meeting in early May with the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods as part of that zoning request. The City will work with the BCPC to help facilitate that meeting.

New Business: The group discussed the new Farmstand Market and Café that has announced they will open at 9914 Old Union Road in July. Mr. Barlow asked if there was a way the city received notification of new businesses. Currently, there is no required city business license, so notification is by word of mouth. Mayor Solomon tasked City Staff to look into neighboring city requirements for licensing and notification and report back to the EDC group.

The EDC is invited to attend a Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting at the new Flying Olive Bluegrass store located at 8761 US 42-Suite E. The new store sells a variety of dipping oils, gifts and related farm products and was formerly located in the Friendly Market near Mt. Zion Road. The ribbon cutting will take place at 10 a.m.

Upcoming Meetings: The next meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be April 19, at 6 p.m. at the City Building.

The Meeting was formally adjourned at 7:30 by Commissioner Ramage