

City of Evansville **Economic Development Committee**
Regular Meeting
3rd Floor City Hall, 31 S Madison Street, Evansville, WI 53536
Monday, June 16th, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order. 6:00 pm by Geoffrion.

2. Roll Call:

	Present/Absent	Others Present
Joe Geoffrion, Chair	P	Anne Kolasch, Nate Perty,
Kelly Shannon	P	Shawn Dunphy, Evansville Chamber of Commerce
Jon Alling	P	Colette Spranger, Com. Dev. Director
Paul Liesse	P	
Brandon Rutz	A	
Pat Carr	A	
Sue Berg	P	

3. Motion to Approve Agenda as printed. Motion by Geoffrion, seconded by Berg. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from May 21st, 2025 meetings and approve as printed. Minor change to reflect Alling’s absence in May. Motion by Geoffrion, seconded by Berg. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Civility Reminder

6. Citizen appearances, other than listed agenda items

Anne Kolasch attended to hear more about what was going on around the Community. She owns Food For Life, a part-time catering business. She works out of Creekside Place, which has a commercial kitchen.

7. New Business

Spranger and Geoffrion need to reschedule with Stoughton Trailers. Spranger is working to get others scheduled.

8. Old Business. Makerspaces were discussed, particularly on how to help business like Gordon Miller Woodworks offer hands-on opportunities. Currently there are limitations due to insurance liability. Alling and Berg have reached out to contacts at local workshop spaces in Madison and will follow up with Gordy Miller. Perry asked what kind of equipment is used at these spaces. Alling replies that almost any machine or specialized equipment could be used at a maker space. School district has a Community Service fund (Fund 80) that can be used for pools, tennis courts, pottery classes – anything that could be accessed by the public. There is potential to utilize this as a way to provide access to certain types of equipment here in Evansville that are sought after in maker spaces.

An inquiry was made regarding a job fair in the fall. It will be revisited at the next meeting.

9. Monthly Reports

- A. Community Development Update.** Spranger summarized recent and ongoing activities, including zoning revisions proposed at Plan Commission, ongoing hailstorm repair, and updates with the Park and Open Space plan. The City recently performed a Walk Audit. The initial results of that exercise were summarized well by Liesse. “Where we’ve made changes, we’ve made good changes.” Spranger also shared an overview of the downtown economy throughout the past year, as is required by the City’s participation in Connect Communities. There was an inquiry to see if it was possible to quantify the secondary impact of the hailstorm on the local economy. Restaurant and lodging have seemed to enjoy an uptick in service due to extra contracting crews being in town.
- B. Chamber Update.** Dunphy is preparing for the chamber’s annual golf outing, a significant fundraiser for the Chamber. She is also attending an informal meeting with Mark Pocan at the Vintage Roost. She included openings/closings around town, noting that the Grove Society was open again.
- C. Tourism Update.**
Sue Berg updated on mural #3 progress, mural #1 relocation, the tourism website, and the project to add new lamp post banners.

10. Discussion

11. Next Meeting Dates:

- A.** Regular Meeting: July 16th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

12. Adjourn.