

Economic Development and Tourism Committee Meeting

October 8, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 5:30. In attendance included Trustees Matt Bernius, Lamar Miller, Christy Bernius, Kurt Hall, Isai Guterez and Mayor Rod Randall.

Also at the meeting included Stephanie Wierman, Randa Carson, Angie Parsons, Jerry Winters, Marsha Boyer, Kenny Crossman, George Fritz, Adam Fritz, June B, Casey Oye, Charlie Oye, Myla Oye, Lyle Otto, Elvie Otto and Karen Gingerich.

New Business;

- Discussion on Economic Development ideas for the downtown. How can we get the community excited about the community again. So many things were discussed including
 - o This will be divided into 3 more meetings to dive deeper into the topics
 - o Inventory of spaces/ businesses available
 - o What businesses do we need
 - o Incentives- current and possible ideas
 - o There must be business buy in, nothing works without it
 - o Community support- do events, etc targeting the community
 - o Communication is key
 - o Newsletter sign ups- Simply Arthur, Illinois Amish Heritage Center
 - o Simply Arthur to do a "shopping list"
 - o Streetscapes for downtown- overwhelming agreement to that- market area, new lighting, trash cans, flower boxes, façade
 - o Christmas ideas
 - o Marsha Boyer signed up to help out
 - o Meetings the next 3 Wednesdays at 5:30.
 - o Look at billboards along 36 and 57

General Discussion

- Chapin Rose representative will be here this week.
- Ameren Rates have changed; the village put a letter in the paper and on social media.
- Douglas County Business Directory, Chamber and Simply Arthur helping with that
- Peace Poles from Rotary club have arrived.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38

Christy Bernius