

**Economic Development and Business Committee Meeting Agenda and Minutes
City of Park Hills**

**June 25, 2024
6:00 PM**

Virtual via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81027464536?pwd=VIFUYXVXdjZ3aEt1L2lWRkFRSWhVUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 2746 4536

Passcode: 702512

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In attendance, all virtual: Sarah Froelich, Gretchen Stephenson, Joe Daugherty, Emily Sayers; Mike Conway (6:12)

The meeting began at 6:05.

1. Review of May minutes: [Regular meeting](#) and [working session](#) (3 minutes)
 - a. Delay the vote until our July meeting.
2. Plan Park Hills Town Hall
 - a. Impressions (10 minutes)
 - i. [Presentation](#)
 - ii. Survey results
 - iii. [Easel notes](#)
 1. Emily was happy with the attendance, good energy in the room, and things we can act on right away.
 2. Gretchen thought it was very well done, getting responses and good camaraderie, implementation may be challenging, and we have a huge opportunity with Szechuan.
 3. Mike wants the city to get the demolition order to the owner with milestone dates; he's unsure if the mayor understood that we might face an extension if we wait. With more deliberateness, we might be able to attract a restaurateur. He has experience with the Millenium Hotel in Cincinnati that may relate. There may be some environmental issues.
 4. Emily agrees on incentivizing a potential new business for the Szechuan property with an economic development package. She wants to know whether we've worked with the owners because this could be an opportunity to share with a resource like [BeNKY](#).
 5. Mike asked about the progress and possibility of the Dixie Highway project.
 6. Sarah shared that we will come back to this later in the agenda.

7. Gretchen mentioned that Jason Reser had an idea years ago that Ft. Wright didn't agree with.
 8. Mike shared that things have changed since then.
 9. Emily suggested engaging with the two high schools in Park Hills to attract more volunteers to our events.
 10. Mike suggested putting together a task force to concentrate more on follow-up from the town hall.
 11. Sarah suggested engaging with people who took the survey and said they wanted to participate and invited them to participate.
 12. Gretchen mentioned that people like to be invited and that people like personal invitations. Perhaps we could focus on people with specific areas of expertise or hobbies?
 13. Mike mentioned the upcoming 100th anniversary and getting residents involved. He also suggested looking for a grant writing program.
 14. Emily suggested putting together a strategy to get this done.
 15. Sarah mentioned that engaging with current business is important.
 16. Mike mentioned that we ought to appreciate and highlight the amenities and assets we have—that we can position our city as being close to Devou, medical facilities, universities, and more.
- b. Next steps (20 minutes)
- i. [Plan for Activation](#)
 - ii. [Digital sign application](#)
 1. Joe thinks this is a good idea.
 2. Mike thinks this is a good idea and suggests being careful about offering this service to everyone. He wants to focus on cleaning up the business district more.
 3. Gretchen said she wouldn't see the digital sign as much of an asset. She wants to clean up the business district. Granite World hasn't fulfilled its commitments. She wants to see more enforcement of zoning standards.
 4. Mike agreed and said our city has a junkyard look. The liquor store has advertising signs in the windows. He thinks we need to ask them to live up to their commitment and he wants proper design standards.
 5. Gretchen mentioned that we need a professional city administrator to set us on the right footing. We need professional guidance.
3. [Park Hills Parcel Analysis](#) (2 minutes)
- a. Sarah mentioned more is to come on this soon.
4. Dixie Highway project (2 minutes)
- a. Mike wants to focus on this project and thinks the time now is perfect so we can leverage with Brent Spence Bridge construction. It's a design challenge.
 - b. Mike agreed to present the project at an upcoming council meeting.
5. Z21 update (3 minutes)

- a. Sarah shared that work is continuing.
- 6. Business district update (3 minutes)
 - a. Szechuan Garden
 - b. Sisters of Notre Dame
 - i. Gretchen shared a contact at SND.
- 7. Other new Ideas (3 minutes)
 - a. City-wide street lighting program
 - a. Ft. Wright overpass
 - b. 100th-anniversary celebration
 - b. Park Hills community development fund
- 8. [Park Hills Business Community](#) spreadsheet (1 minute)
- 9. Next steps (5 minutes)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 6 PM.