City of Crystal Lake Economic Development Committee
December 6, 2016 – 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Complex – City Council Chambers Conference Room

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Mr. Reece.

Roll Call/Attendance
Members Affrunti, Dalzell, DeHaan, and Reece were present. Mr. Saidler arrived at 7:35 a.m. Members Leech, Maule, Schroll and Fowler were absent.

Heather Maieritsch, Economic Development Manager, was present from staff.

Approve Minutes of the October 25, 2016 Meetings
Mr. Reece stated that the minutes could not be approved at this time due to a lack of a quorum.

Public Participation
There was no one present to speak.

I Shop Crystal Lake Update
Ms. Maieritsch said the consultant has initiated a holiday campaign which will include reminders to shop local businesses. She said they have had good and growing participation with Instagram. Ms. Maieritsch believes the consultant has done a good job in attracting new interest to I Shop CL and they will continue to come up with new programs for the new year.

Mr. Saidler arrived.

Approve Minutes of the October 25, 2016 Meetings
Mr. Affrunti moved to approve the minutes for the October 25, 2016 EDC meeting as presented. Mr. DeHaan seconded the motion. On roll call, members Affrunti, DeHaan, and Saidler voted aye. Members Dalzell and Reece abstained. Motion passed.

Business anniversaries and tour updates
Ms. Maieritsch said there will be two presentations tonight at the City Council meeting – Pablo's Mexican Restaurant and Cantina and Pop's Corn Crib. The other business anniversaries that had been previously discussed will be presented different plaques at the next EDC meeting. The businesses will be invited to the meeting and the presentations will be held in the City Council Chambers followed by coffee and donuts. She added that the Mayor has been invited. Mr. Reece said it would be good for the Mayor to be there.

Mr. Reece and Mr. Dalzell said they will not be able to attend the next EDC meeting in January.

Ms. Maieritsch said she is working on dates for tours of Serv-All and DeMarco. Mr. Reece said there was mention of touring Boltswitch again. They had a tour of that business recently. Ms. Maieritsch said Boltswitch will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in the fall of 2017. The tour would also be a chance to award them with a plaque. Mr. Reece feels it would be better to present the plaque at a City Council meeting.

Ms. Maieritsch said she will contact the members regarding tour dates.

Organization reports:

Downtown Crystal Lake

Mr. Reece said the Festival of Lights parade was recently held. Mr. Dalzell said there is a problem with parking downtown. There are a few vacancies in downtown, but foot traffic has been a little slow.

Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Maieritsch has heard that the Community Harvest for the Food Pantry went well again this year.

Mr. Reece said there is a meet and greet this morning hosted by the Chamber for the new area representatives.

Ms. Maieritsch said that the State of the Community will be held in the beginning of February.

McEDC

No Report.

City of Crystal Lake

Ms. Maieritsch said they have sent out various press releases regarding Small Business Saturday and other items. There are several new businesses that have opened and staff is working to fill the current vacancies. She added that the stand alone Sports Authority building went up for auction recently and the owners are working on filling that space. Ms. Maieritsch said the HH Gregg space is up for sale, but have not been notified that the business is closing. She said there is no movement on the former K-Mart space but there is movement in the former Sports Authority space in that center.

Mr. DeHaan asked about the former Wal Mart site. Ms. Maieritsch said there are a few owners in that area and one is working on purchasing additional property. She said the concept plan has changed slightly but it is similar to what has been discussed over the past few years.

Mr. Reece asked about the former Hines Lumber/Hummel site at Main and Crystal Lake Avenue. Ms. Maieritsch said there has been a conceptual plan submitted to staff and they will be presenting the conceptual plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission tomorrow night at their meeting. She described the plan and told the members that the information is on the City's website on the Calendar page under Planning and Zoning Commission if members are interested in seeing the elevations.

Comments and suggestions from the Committee

Mr. Dalzell stated that the sales tax should be lowered.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 a.m.