

**City Of Rolling Meadows  
Economic Development Committee Minutes  
Monday, June 5, 2023**

**Members Present:**

Linda Ballantine  
Heather Larson  
Jeanine Molinelli  
Kevin O'Brien

**Members Absent:**

Christine Burbidge  
Rachel Jacobsen  
Jenifer Vinezeano

**Also Present:**

Susan Luisi, Café on the Grove  
Dena Maldonado, Café on the Grove  
Joseph McKeown, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO)  
Martha Corner, Business Development Manager

**Call to Order**

EDC Chair Jeanine Molinelli established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes from April, 2023 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Member Larson and seconded by Member O'Brien to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023 Economic Development Committee (EDC) regular meeting. With no additional discussion the EDC minutes were unanimously approved by the membership.

**City of Rolling Meadows Restaurant Incentive Request – Café on the Gove, 2160 Plum Grove Road (Plum Grove Road Shopping Center)**

New restaurant owner for planned Café on the Grove, Susan Luisi and Dena Maldonado, introduced themselves and reviewed the new restaurant concept. Café on the Grove will be a high-end breakfast and lunch location at the former Gus' Diner, with event space available for private parties. This will be a completely new restaurant build out with significant expenses involved.

After some discussion, the EDC voted unanimously to recommend City Council approval of the Restaurant Incentive for Café on the Grove.

**Introduction and Program Overview – Joseph McKeown, DCEO**

Martha Corner introduced Joseph McKeown of DCEO to the EDC. Mr. McKeown provided a review of his career and his role at DCEO as the Northeast Illinois Region Manager serving businesses and communities in Cook, DuPage, Lake, Will, Kane, McHenry, Kendall, Kankakee, DeKalb and Grundy Counties.

Mr. McKeown then provided a PowerPoint presentation on the range of services provided by DCEO. For more information on DCEO visit <https://dceo.illinois.gov>.

## **Events Discussion**

The EDC agreed to defer an agenda item “Event Planning Criteria” to the next EDC meeting.

## **Staff Reports – Business Advocate Update**

Ms. Corner reported the following:

- Amy Beyer, owner of Salty Provisions, a gourmet sea salt blend business located at 4300 Lincoln Avenue, Suite I, has applied to receive professional business coaching through the Next Level Northwest (NLNW) public/private partnership. Pitch Panel presentation date to be determined. For information on Salty Provisions, visit <https://doyoulovesalt.com>.
- Ibrahim Essa, owner of Country Financial, an insurance services provider located at 4200 Euclid Avenue, Suite B, has applied to receive professional business coaching through the Next Level Northwest (NLNW) public/private partnership. Pitch Panel presentation date to be determined. For information on this Country Financial location, visit <https://agents.countryfinancial.com/usa/il/rolling-meadows/ibrahim-essa>.
- To kick off public comment on the process of developing the first Business Development Strategic Plan for the City of Rolling Meadows, City Staff will be hosting a booth at the June 9, 2023 Block Party. Feedback will be solicited on items such as desired businesses, ideas for streetscapes and redevelopment, business leakage to other communities and what businesses may not be desired for Rolling Meadows.
- New Rolling Meadows business 32 Dental 4U (3218 Kirchoff Road – Rolling Meadows Shopping Center) will be hosting a ribbon cutting and open house on June 8, 2023, invitations have been sent. For more information on 32 Dental 4U, visit <https://www.32dental4u.com>.
- A lease has been signed for the former Taco Bell location at 2997 Kirchoff Road. The new business, Arzan Market & Café, will provide a mix of Central Asian and European cuisine. This will be a second location for the business owner. For information on Arzan Market & Café, visit <https://www.facebook.com/arzancafe>.
- A lease has been signed for the former Egglectic Café location at 2905 Algonquin Road. The new business will be Agit Black Bar & Grill, a karaoke bar and restaurant. This is a second location for the business owners. For more information on Agit, visit <https://www.facebook.com/agitchicago>.

## **Items of Interest in the City**

None.

## **Issues Not on the Agenda**

None.

## **Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

Chair Molinelli requested a motion to adjourn the meeting which was made by Member O'Brien and seconded by Member Laron, and unanimously approved by the membership. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Economic Development Committee will take place on August 7, 2023 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Martha Corner

Minutes approved on: 8/7/23

J. Molinelli  
Jeanine Molinelli, Chair, Economic Development Committee

