

SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS TRADE & INVESTMENT COUNCIL

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Southwest Illinois Development Authority

Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call and Introductions

President Kniepkamp opened the meeting at 9:00 A.M. and welcomed guests Ronda Sauget, Tony Fuhrman, and Next David asked that a roll be taken. The following members were present. Secretary Dahl stated that there was not a quorum. President Kniepkamp indicated that no actions could be taken, but agenda items would still be discussed.

Council Board of Directors

Erick Dahl	Craig Eversmann
Edie Koch (proxy)	James Arnold (proxy)
Tim Cantwell	Paul Toskin
David Kniepkamp	Mark Spizzo (proxy)

Dave Miller

Ex-Officios

Elizabeth Ahren	Kim Hamilton
Silvia Torres	Ryan Langdon

Elizabeth Ahren

II. Approval of October 26, 2017 and January 25, April 26, 2018 Minutes

President Kniepkamp asked the Directors if there were any corrections to the minutes. There no corrections. Due to the lack of the quorum, minutes would need to be approved at the July meeting.

III. Officers Reports:

A. Executive.

President Kniepkamp noted that the Executive Committee met on April 12, 2018 to assemble the agenda and to discuss other issues to be further reported by the Committee members. He briefly reviewed research into the Illinois Open Meetings Act and whether the Southwest Illinois Trade and Investment Council fell under it. He stated that on further examination it was determined that the SWITIC did not fall into the category of a “public body” and therefore did not have to adhere to the Act.

B. Financial

Paul Toskin, Treasurer gave a brief financial report that indicated a current net balance of \$782.00. The only new income thus far in 2018 was \$1,000 from St. Clair County. He reported that a financial sponsorship campaign was underway for “Discover Southwest IL”.

IV. Committee Reports:

A. Nomination.

Edie Koch, Chair for this Committee, reported a slate of officers had been determined to bring before the Full Council for a vote: President – David Kniepkamp; Vice president – Herb Roach; Treasurer – Paul Toskin; Secretary – Erik Dahl. Nominations would also be

taken from the floor. Due to the lack of a quorum, a vote on the 2018 officers could not be taken. According to the bylaws, current officers would continue to serve until replaced,

B. Program (Mexico Regional Trade Mission).

Silvia Torres reported on the progress of this Mission. On the 11th an information session was held to familiarize potential Trade Mission participants with the Mission and how it would work. A representative from the Illinois Trade Office was there to talk about available financial assistance. She reported that a specific date had been chosen, July 22-26, 2018 to the cities of Estado De Mexico, Toluca, and Mexico City. More information about the Mission was included in the packet.

C. Marketing/Communication

Kniepkamp reported Kerry Smith continues to work on content for the website. President Kniepkamp also mentioned that she would be asked to cover parts of the Discover SWIL event and make contact with various media outlets for stories and interviews.

V. Old Business:

A. Adhoc Committee on Reverse Trade Mission.

Koch stated that plans were finalized for this event and that 13 Trade Commissioners representing 11 countries were expected to attend: Bulgaria, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Philippines, China, Belgium- Flanders, Chile, Ecuador, Argentina. She also reported that commitments for financial sponsorships were adequate to support the costs for the initiative: transportation, dinner and reception, lunches etc.

VI. New Business

A. Amendments to the Bylaws – Membership Structure.

President Kniepkamp again referred members to the amendments that were sent to everyone for review prior to the quarterly meeting (also in their meeting packets). The purpose of the amendments was to institute a membership fee structure and the allowance for associate memberships. Section 9.1 and section 12.3, 12.4, and 12.5 were affected. Due to a lack of a quorum, a vote for the amendment would have to be tabled until the July meeting.

B. Adhoc Research Committee on future Trade Missions

This committee did not meet and subsequently nothing to report.

VII. Public Comment.

There were no public comments.

VIII. Announcements.

None.

IX. Next meeting confirmation and adjournment

President Kniepkamp reminded that the next meeting would be on May April 26th at SWIDA. With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.