

Edinburgh Redevelopment Commission
Annual Report
2013

Greg Stinson declined re-appointment to the Commission in 2013. Karen Fitzpatrick was appointed by the Town Council, joined the Commission at the January 2, 2013 meeting, and served on the Commission throughout 2013.

Election of officers was held at the January 2, 2013 meeting of the Commission. Ted Lucas was re-elected President. Bill West was elected Vice-President. John Rondot was re-elected Secretary. Those officers served throughout 2013.

Regular quarterly meetings of the Commission were held in addition to special meetings called during the year. These meetings were held in conjunction with the Edinburgh Redevelopment Authority. Separate meeting minutes were developed by the Commission and the Authority.

The Commission closely followed the project to remove the Amos-Hill Grain Elevator during the year. Wade Watson, Edinburgh Building Commissioner, gave a general review of the project to the Commission on January 2, 2013. The Commission approved resolution 2013-1 at its January 14, 2013 meeting.

The Commission goals for 2013 were established at the January 2, 2013 meeting. They included:

- 1) Working with the Merchant's Association
- 2) Reviewing the Comprehensive Plan
- 3) Continuing to work with the realtors attempting to increase building in the Timbergate Residential area
- 4) Continue to work with Wayne Gibbs, Timbergate Course Manager, on improvements to the Timbergate Golf Course
- 5) Investigate methods for cleaning up properties within the town limits

Lack of funds and the lack of a funding source (i.e. Tax Increment Financing "TIF" District) forced the Commission to once again focus on Timbergate Golf Course and other activities requiring no funds during 2013.

Ted Lucas, John Rondot, and John Drybread (Edinburgh Redevelopment Authority President) met with representatives of the Merchant's Association on March 7, 2013 to discuss possible ways of enhancing the 'downtown' experience for visitors and residents. Among the areas of concern were:

- 1) Wayfinding signage directing travelers to the downtown area.
- 2) Parking problems in the downtown area
- 3) Underfunding of new businesses trying to establish a presence in the downtown area
- 4) Soldiers from Camp Atterbury being told not to frequent Edinburgh. This may no longer be a problem, as soldiers are seen regularly in the downtown area
- 5) Lack of the long-range plan for downtown
- 6) The merchants are pleased with the Facade Program and the Flower Program
- 7) The merchants want closer working relationships with Timbergate Golf Course, Exit 76 Antique Mall, local hotels/motels, businesses in the Edinburgh Industrial Park, and Premium Outlets
- 8) Possible grants available to assist in the promotion of downtown
- 9) Possible 'Chamber of Commerce' type organization in Edinburgh. This had not worked well in the past. Suggestion was made that the Library take on some of the work of promoting downtown

It was later learned by the Commission that the Merchant's Association had disbanded due to illness of one of the leaders.

No progress was made during 2013 on this initiative.

The Commission continued to pay close attention throughout 2013 to planned maintenance and enhancements at Timbergate Golf Course. The Commission and Wayne Gibbs, Timbergate Course Manager, continued to prioritize a list of items needing attention.

The Commission commended Wayne Gibbs and his crew at Timbergate Golf Course for their continuous improvement of the Course. Comments from visitors have been overwhelmingly positive.

The Commission reviewed the Strand Associates proposals for infrastructure improvements. Cost of these improvements made them unrealistic in the current financial environment.

Increased marketing of the Timbergate residential areas, which has been on-going for more than a year, has not resulted in any additional homes being built in the area. It has now been more than 4 years since the last new home construction.

John Rondot joined the Aspire Johnson County group in October as a representative of the Commission.

The Commission discussed the proposed increase in the number of trains passing through Edinburgh and the increased speed which they will be running. The Commission will continue to review this during 2014 as the proposed increases become a reality.

The Commission will have an organizational meeting on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 6:00PM at the Edinburgh Town Hall for election of officers and establishment of quarterly meeting dates for the remainder of 2014.

All meetings will follow the Town Council meeting for that evening. Special meeting will be called when necessary. All meetings will be advertised per legal requirements.

Commission Membership as of December 17, 2013 included:

Ted Lucas, President
 Bill West, Vice President
 John Rondot, Secretary
 Karen Fitzpatrick
 Ray Walton
 Cathy Hamm, Non-Voting Member

Throughout the calendar year of 2013, the Commission did not employ any employees or pay any salaries or compensation therein. The Commission made no expenditures during the preceding year and managed no tax increment revenues; issued no loans; and had no funds at the close of the calendar year.

Respectfully submitted:
 John D. Rondot
 Secretary