In Attendance:

City of Evanston: Mr. Wally Bobkiewicz, Mr. Matt Swentkofske, Mr. Doug Gaynor, Mr. Mark Tendam, Ms. Jane Grover, Ms. Evonda Thomas, Officer Mike Stanton, Officer Scott Sophier

District 202: Dr. Eric Witherspoon, Ms. Gretchen Livingston, Ms. Deborah Graham

District 65: Mr. Jerome Summers

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 pm.

1. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Mr. Tendam and seconded by Mr. Summers.

2. Economic Development: Mr. Bobkiewicz reported on the following activities after creating a team to examine business retention and business relocation:

   - Mass transit connections of the “el”, Metra and Pace to keep transit rigorous
   - North to South Central Street corridor focusing on revitalization and relocation
   - Central Street between Green Bay Road and Ridge Avenue, including working with Northwestern to enhance the area prior to football season.
   - Green Bay Road to Ryan’s Field enhancements
   - Church and Dodge Streets and the property owners invested in revitalizing that intersection.
   - West Village at the intersection of Dempster Street and Dodge Avenue, including revitalization of shopping center
   - Downtown Evanston and acuities of the storefronts, i.e. former Borders space. He also discussed the resiliency of the downtown area
   - Chicago Avenue and Main Street, and, Chicago Avenue and Dempster Street attracting attention from new business owners
   - Chicago Avenue and Main Street – the City is working closely at promoting office space adjacent to el and Metra, with proposed parking enhancements
   - Chicago Avenue south of Main Street at the former Subaru site and a potential purchase of parcels
   - Howard Street area – City purchased two parcels between Chicago and Ridge Avenues in a revitalization effort. The City has been engaged in
dialogue with a computer company and various restaurants that has resulted in a hub of activity

- Possibility of getting funds for the red and purple lines getting funds from the government to build anew. Although the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) said it's not their plan, Mayor Emanuel is looking to expand red line south. And the City is working to get him to consider Purple line upgrade as well
- Closing of the recycling center and various opportunities for development

3. **Job Training:** Dr. Witherspoon inquired how the City serves young people in their early twenties lacking job skills and would like to work with City to explore job training for that population. He explained that ETHS does not have the resources for post-graduates and offered that ETHS facilities could be used for job training. Ms. Livingston voiced that the Youth Job Center (YJC) serves young adults in that population and suggested that a representative from YJC be brought in for further discussion because of their networking and partnerships capabilities. Mr. Bobkiewicz suggested looking at year-round programs instead of summer program.

4. **Northwestern University Representation on City-School Committee:** Mr. Bobkiewicz reported that Dr. Eugene Sunshine of Northwestern University was not available to attend this meeting; however, he is interested in having university representation in the future. Mr. Bobkiewicz offered to follow up with Mr. Sunshine for future meetings.

5. **ETHS & Chicago High School Students: Participation in NU Financial Aid Program:** Dr. Witherspoon offered background for the item. He reported that Northwestern University indicated that they would like to reach out to Evanston residents with financial aid packages. He further reported that as of this year, 52 students applied to Northwestern, and 18 were accepted. Of those 18, 7 were offered the "Good Neighbor" Scholarship. Of the 7, only 1 student chose to attend. That student has been in a work-study program at City. Dr. Witherspoon also reported that of 620 seniors, 61% apply for 4-year college, and only 32% apply for private universities. He explained that one of Northwestern's goals is to see more minorities in their population.

6. **Traffic Around School Campuses:** Ms. Grover discussed the traffic in and around the Evanston District 65 school community. She would like to see more interaction with the school district and safe routes. She also was concerned about the use of cell phones by parents in both districts. Officer Michael Stanton and Officer Scott Sophier explained that there are 3 officers in traffic unit. The most repeated violations seen thus far are of the Dewey one-way signs, the aggressive drivers and parking in the crosswalks and near hydrants around Orrington, and the violation of the one-ways signs around Haven Middle School. The Officers explained that they could only enforce what they are aware of and encourage citizens to call 311 when they notice violations.
Ms. Livingston suggested that citizens contact Ricky Voss for training of school guards. Ms. Grover also asked for a more coordinated effort on encouraging students to walk to school. Officer Stanton reported that in the traffic unit alone, over 700 citations have been administered with over 400 citations for seat belt violations, and said that citizens should report violations to the traffic office at (847)866-5064.

8. **Update on STD Testing:** Ms. Evonda Thomas reported that for two thirds of high school students, the ETHS health office is their primary care. Of 300 students tested for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD’s), 30 students tested positive of chlamydia or gonorrhea. Ms. Thomas was able to capture the data by working with the Evanston Hospitals and ETHS. The Health Department is looking at innovative strategies to impact those numbers. Ms. Thomas will be in conversation with Mary Larson from District 65 to discuss how to engage middle school students in prevention practices, and that the State Health Department has funding available for this kind of partnership. Mr. Summers thanked Ms. Thomas for keeping the dental clinic open and Mr. Tendam and Dr. Witherspoon remarked that the clinic is vital to the community.

9. **Reduction in City Youth Services:** Mr. Gaynor reported that the City has not reduced youth services, but the department is using resources differently. He discussed the difficulties in keeping recreation centers open for later hours because many young teens are not able to drive or secure a ride home. Mr. Gaynor expressed concern for their safety when closing the center later in the evening.

**Other:** Ms. Grover would like the City, D65 and ETHS be on each other’s list serves.

**Adjournment:** 7:12 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sheila Burke