

AGENDA

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

February 24, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Village Hall - Board Room
300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

A. Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes from February 10, 2025.

Motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Minutes from February 10, 2025.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTARY

IV. ANNUAL COMMISSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Annual Report - Historical Commission

B. Annual Report - Mundelein Community Connection

C. Annual Report - Planning and Zoning Commission

D. Annual Report - Mundelein Arts Commission

E. Annual Report - Economic Development Commission

F. Annual Report - Old # 1 Fire Truck Preservation Committee

G. Annual Report - Beautification Committee

V. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The Village of Mundelein, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, to contact the ADA Coordinator at 847-949-3200 to allow the Village to arrange accommodations for those persons.

CALL TO ORDER

A Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Village of Mundelein was held on February 10, 2025 at 300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein. Mayor Lentz called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Assistant Administrator Monroe took the roll call. It indicated as follows:

Board Attendance

PRESENT: Trustees Juarez, Lambert, Meier, Ross, Schwenk, Wilson, Mayor Lentz

ABSENT: Clerk Walsh

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Attorney Cahill, Village Administrator Guenther, Assistant Village Administrator Monroe, Finance Director Miller, Fire Chief Lark, Police Chief Seeley, Building Department Director Sellas, Community Development Director Orenchuk, Public Works and Engineering Director Boeche

ABSENT: None

MINUTES APPROVAL

MINUTES APPROVAL

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Juarez
SECONDER:	Trustee Schwenk
AYES:	Trustee Juarez, Trustee Lambert, Trustee Meier, Trustee Berman Ross, Trustee Schwenk, Trustee Wilson
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS

Mayor Lentz started off by saying this is his last State of the Village address. It originally started as the "economic state of the Village address" and grew into encompassing more of the Village's past year's accomplishments/events. The Village is in a forward motion; Mr. Lentz spoke about the previous 3 Mayors and what they brought to the Village--Lake Michigan water, and the new Village Hall paid with all cash. Mr. Lentz said he wished things could have moved faster but the 2017 flood and the recession set us back.

Mr. Lentz went over his "top 10" as he has done in the past. This year they include the development of the Bank Triangle, roads, Wirtz development, community events, residential development, commissions & committees, TIF #4, fiscal responsibility, tech &

software development, and infrastructure development (Rt 83/60 overpass project). He touched on each one with explanations of what they do and thanked the volunteers for all the work that they do all year.

Property tax rates were discussed, bridge and road tax levies, debt has been kept stable, pensions have been rising due to the addition of staff and the state's pension models. Community Development was discussed--vacancies both residential and industrial, grants have been awarded to various businesses.

Also Mr. Lentz talked about the Soybean Growers Association recently visiting our public works site promoting soybean oil, we use soybean oil mixed in with diesel fuel (bio-fuel) for our public works vehicles.

Our Administration department started the Hometown Heroes program, making banners of our military residents, these banners hang all over the downtown.

Our Police Department and Fire Department got huge kudos for the incredible work they have done--solving the 4 murders, 1 kidnapping, 1 near drowning of a small child and the saving of an unconscious man from the second-story of a burning building. Our Village is blessed and lucky to have these first responders.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY / QUESTIONS

A question was asked "how do we prioritize Village hirings?" Administrator Guenther answered saying hiring is dictated by the growth of the Village, crime trends, fire call trends, and what is needed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn the Regular Board Meeting.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Juarez
SECONDER:	Trustee Schwenk
AYES:	Trustee Juarez, Trustee Lambert, Trustee Meier, Trustee Berman Ross, Trustee Schwenk, Trustee Wilson
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Village Clerk

To: Commission Members

From: Michael Flynn

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Historical Commission

Attachments:

None

Background:

MUNDELEIN HISTORICAL COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

I. INTRODUCTON

The ordinance establishing the Mundelein Historical Commission was adopted in December 2018. It acknowledged the importance of having “knowledge and understanding of a community’s history” and recognized the value in making the community’s history “available and accessible to current and future generations”.

The ordinance directed the Commission to:

Collaborate with other organizations to preserve Mundelein History

- Make Mundelein History accessible to the public
- Plan programs, policies and activities
- Research and evaluate strategies to develop programs about Mundelein History
- Promote the use of artifacts and memorabilia for the continued education of residents and visitors

And, it requires the Commission to submit a written report to the Mayor and Board on its activities in the preceding year within 90 days of the end of the calendar year. This is the ***Annual Report of the Mundelein Historical Commission for 2024.***

II. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the enabling ordinance, the Commission established its goals and objectives and presented them to the Board in its Annual Report on August 9, 2019. A good portion of the Commission's goals are focused on operating the museum and managing the artifact collection. (All museum administrative and management procedures are available on the MHC webpage.) In addition, the Commission provided examples of potential projects outside the museum for promoting access to local history.

III. MUSEUM MANAGEMENT OF THE HERITAGE MUSEUM

The museum is owned and maintained by the Mundelein Park and Recreation District. The artifact collection is the property of MPRD. Whenever an item is recommended to be added or removed from the collection, the Park Board must vote on the recommendation. The Historical Commission works closely with the Park District staff on facility maintenance and collection management.

Displays

In the off-season last year, our exhibit curators worked diligently to update and expand several of our permanent exhibits.

They also removed the 2023 rotating exhibit and replaced it with a display that we are most proud of: *Diamond Lake Lost and Found*. The museum opened for the 2024 season on March 18, 2024.

Diamond Lake Lost and Found is a partnership with a local amateur archaeologist, John Hynds. Mr. Hynds loaned the Museum hundreds of artifacts that he has recovered from Diamond Lake over the years. Curators, Wendy Frasier and Barb Zander selected, arranged, and labeled the Hynds artifacts, and added additional artifacts, photos, and written information from the Museum Collection to the exhibit. The result is an extensive array of household items, tools, industrial artifacts, military memorabilia and personal belongings that documents life on Diamond over the last 150+ years.

John Hynds was a featured speaker at the museum on three special occasions during the year. He provided a first-hand account of his work for visitors. Periodically, John brings in newly found items which are added to the display. The exhibit was very popular in 2024. Because of the great public demand, we have extended it for another year. We are so proud of the exhibit; our partnership with Mr. Hynds; and the historical relevance of this exhibit that we applied for a 2024 Museum Award from the Illinois State Historical Society. The application is still under review at this writing.

Special Historical Events and Programs

Lake County Alliance: In April, MHC hosted the Lake County Alliance monthly meeting and gave a tour of the Museum for thirty-five (35) members of the Alliance. The Alliance is led by Diana Dretske of the Dunn Museum. It is comprised of representatives from all the local museums in Lake County. The Heritage Museum is a member.

Local Authors Book Signing: In June MHC brought seven (7) authors to the museum to discuss their works and sign copies for sale. John Hynds gave demonstrations of metal detecting and talked with the public. Thirty-two (32) people visited the museum that day.

Pop-up Museum: In July we brought an off-site "pop-up" museum to Tighthead Brewery. This was a "show-and-tell" type event. We displayed twenty (20) very unusual and peculiar items; antique tools, household items, farm equipment etc., that are not on current display at the museum, for

people to identify. Prizes were awarded to the winners. Fifty (50) people took part.

Ivanhoe Cemetery Walk: In August we held a Historical Cemetery Walk at Ivanhoe Cemetery. A cemetery walk is an outdoor, theatrical event featuring monologs at gravesites performed by actors representing the deceased. Visitors learned about the lives of departed people, all of whom were instrumental in the growth and development of Fremont Township and our community. This was a partnership with Ivanhoe Congregational Church, Kirk Players and Kristan's Funeral Home. One hundred and twenty (120) people attended. There was no charge.

Lure of the Local Art Exhibit: For the 2024 Lure of the Local Art Show, the Commission presented a display of antique sheet music from its extensive collection. Thirty (30) colorful examples of historic, original sheet music were displayed in the foyer of the exhibit hall for the entire run of Lure of the Local. Hundreds of visitors viewed the display.

All Hallows Eve: In October, the museum was decorated for the Halloween Season and a cultural exhibit was created for Dia de los Muertos—Day of the Dead—which ran for two months.

Old Time Radio Shows: Each month, on the 4th Saturday, MHC presents Old Time Radio Shows at the museum. The shows are from the private collection of commission member Anne Walker. They cover a variety of genres from the Golden Age of Radio theatre. Attendance averages eight (8) visitors per show.

Attendance

Museum attendance grew in 2024. Over the nine months of operation, March through December, the museum recorded 394 visitors, which is up from 361 the year prior. We had 16 visitors, from 7 states outside of Illinois, and 1 visitor from another country—Finland. 105 visitors came from other Lake communities in Lake County.

Attendance for the special events that were held away from the museum (pop-up museum, cemetery walk, and school presentations) served another 320 visitors, bringing the total served to 714.

Artifact Collection

In 2024, we continue to make headway on managing the museum collection, including de-accessioning items that no longer meet the museum's mission; receiving new donations; and organizing the off-site storage in the Archer Business Center. Our archivists, Wendy Frasier and Barb Zander, spent a considerable amount of time cataloging/cross-referencing/and organizing our archival materials. Our archival materials are becoming more accessible and useable. This year we responded to several requests for information concerning genealogical research and community information, including conversations with representatives of the Wirtz family, the Ray's and others.

Volunteers

In 2024, the Historical Commission was comprised of 7 members, each of whom serves as a museum docent. In addition, commission members curate exhibits, maintain the collection, and volunteer at special events. Wendy Frasier and Barb Zander are museum archivists and primary exhibit curators; Shawn Killackey is the volunteer coordinator and Adopt-a-Highway liaison; Anne Walker is our

database manager; Tom Bauer and Jeff Hayes joined the Commission this year to fill vacancies. In addition, the MHC engaged 10 additional volunteers as docents and helpers on special projects.

In 2024, MHC volunteers logged **1,789 hours** of work on Commission-related activities.

General Operations

1. The Heritage Museum was open to the public Wednesdays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM and Saturdays from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, March 15th through December 15th.
2. In 2024, three new, lighted display cases were installed to upgrade and expand exhibit space.
3. MHC continued the systematic cataloging and cross-reference of the museum archive materials, making it easier to retrieve information upon request.
4. One (1) group tour was conducted.
5. Discussions with the MPRD Landscape architect concerning preparation of a landscape plan for the Museum campus were ongoing during the year. The new plan will include native plants, herb garden; and informational markers. A draft plan has been prepared. The final planning meeting will be held in February 2025.
6. During the current off-season (December 15, 2024 to March 16, 2025) the Museum's "Rotating Display" *Diamond Lake Lost and Found* will be updated, and a new display celebrating the 100th anniversary of Old #1 will be added.

IV. OTHER PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2024

1. Published four issues of the Mundelein Historical Commission E- Newsletter. 472 residents have enrolled to receive the newsletter. We would like to increase enrollment in 2025 to 1,200. We have embarked on a social media campaign to do so using social media and other resources.
2. The Commission has adopted the section of Courtland Street between Lake Street and Noel Drive and conducted three roadway clean-up days in 2024.
3. Made a historical presentation to approximately 120 third grade students at Fremont Elementary in April.
4. Made a historical presentation to 20 students at the MPRD pre-school in March.
5. Organized a special display at the Fremont Library in March to promote the Diamond Lake exhibit at the museum.
6. Commission members took part in the MPRD Diamond Lake Master Plan development process.
7. Submitted an award application to the Illinois Historical Society for the *Diamond Lake Lost and Found* exhibit.
8. Participated in the Lake County Historical Alliance including monthly meetings and training sessions.
9. Continued efforts to rehab the CB&Q Caboose at the museum. Plans are in place to repair the roof, windows, mitigate interior mold and infestation damage. Stabilizing the structure will permit a careful assessment of the potential for full rehabilitation. A Park Board presentation by the MHC to share information on the current condition of the Caboose and potential rehab options is planned in February 2025.

V. FUNDING

Village of Mundelein: The Village has allocated MHC a budget in FYE25 \$3,500 which is used for non-museum related expenses. For FYE26 we have requested that our budget remain at \$3,500.

Mundelein Park District: Funding of the Heritage Museum is provided by the Mundelein Park and Recreation District from its tax-based Museum Fund. Major purchases in 2024 include three (3) new display cases, one (1) digital picture frame, archiving materials, and building maintenance. MPRD is making significant capital investments in the museum, including a new roof, gutters, and waterproofing the crawl space. And they are taking important steps to stabilize the Caboose and evaluate how it can best serve the mission of the Museum. A landscape plan for the museum grounds will be finalized, with the goal of adding an outdoor learning component to the facility.

VI. CONCLUSION

We are very proud of our accomplishments this year: adding two new members; growing museum attendance; adding the Hynds Exhibit; holding two (2) school presentations; expanding off-site events; improving the artifact collection; forging partnerships with Fremont Library, Mundelein Arts Commission, the Old #1 Committee, Lake County Alliance, The Dunn Museum, Tighthead Brewery, Fremont School District, Mundelein Park District, Ivanhoe Congregational Church, Kirk Players, and the Village Board and staff.

Planning is underway for the following events in 2025:

March –Fremont Library Display;

April – Fremont School Presentation;

June – Live Radio Theater Presentation at Fremont Library;

July -- Old #1 Birthday Party, and release of a commemorative beer in honor of Old #1;

August – Assisting the Old #1 Committee with a Fires Show at Tighthead commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Old #1; and

September – Ivanhoe Cemetery Walk.

We hope that you agree that the MHC is fulfilling the directives of the 2018 Village ordinance by which it was established in 2018.

Recommendation:

To: Commission Members

From: Michael Flynn

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Mundelein Community Connection

Attachments:

None

Background:

MUNDELEIN COMMUNITY CONNECTION 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented by Mike Flynn, President, Mundelein Community Connection

I. Board Members

Chris Piazza, Mundelein Community Bank; Nancy Piasecki, Adiva Credit Union; Mark Yarbrough, Tighthead Brewery; Rita Kipp, resident; Ernie Billitier, resident; Jess Stoffell, Epic Media Inc.; Susan Goedke, Becton, Dickinson & Co.

II. Staff

1. Terry Skriba—Executive Director
2. Becca Merkau – Farmers Market Manager
3. Sarah Christ, Social Media Coordinator

III. Mission

Promoting economic development; preserving historic character; and fostering a strong community spirit in Mundelein's downtown central business district. Provide an atmosphere where new and established businesses can grow and where families find the hometown they have always wanted. We believe a vibrant, diverse downtown is essential to a community's sense of place. We do this by sponsoring family-friendly, community events in the downtown.

IV: Funding FY2024

Fiscal Year: February 1, 2024 to January 31, 2025

Total revenues: \$142,220.37; down \$11,764 from last year. The primary reason for the decrease was the loss in Beer Festival revenue due to poor weather. Beer Festival revenue fell by \$14,975 from the prior year and expenses increased by \$5,071.

Membership and donations: \$7,324; 3.2% of total revenue; up from 2.8% last year;

Village Grant: \$25,000; 17.6% of total revenue; down from 20.2% in the prior year; (2 lowest years 2017-17.5% and 2018-17.4%)

Sponsorships and fundraising: \$109,864; 77.2% of total revenue; down from 78.4% last year.

Total Operating Expenses: \$155,523; up \$18,503 from the prior year.

Revenue over expenses: (\$13,302); loss primarily due to poor beer festival attendance.

Cash on Hand: \$102,202.93

V. Events

A. Park on Park

1. Village Special Event Permit to MCC; Food Vendors Permitted by Lake County Health Department; Use Agreements are negotiated with the Bank Property owners.
2. Held 5-events: 2nd Wednesday of the month May–September
3. Location: Downtown, Seymour Street, Park Street, private and public lots.
4. Attendance: weather dependent; classic cars—0 to 400 patrons—0 to 1500 per event. Two of the 2024 events were impacted by weather.
5. 25 business sponsors

Revenue: \$10,000

Expenses: \$6,558

Net Income: \$3,442

7. Changes for 2025 – Cars pre-2021 will now be accepted. A big increase from pre-1977 only. This is more in line with other car shows. Classic car participation and visitors are expected to increase. Closure of Park Street between Seymour and the alley will have little impact. The opening of the new restaurant will improve the event atmosphere. We plan to add one more food vendor, move food vendors to the NE corner of Park and Seymour, and improve Sponsor Parking. The new public parking lot off of the alley will add more parking for visitors.
8. Goals: increase sponsorships, attendance, and volunteers. Communicate with local businesses and property owners to capitalize on visitors.

B. Craft Beer Festival

1. Village Special Event Permit to MCC; Food Vendors permitted by Lake County Health Department; a Use Agreement is negotiated with Santa Maria.
2. Partnership with Tighthead Brewing Co.
3. Location: Courtland Commons

4. Held 2nd Saturday of June 2024
5. Attendance – 40 beer vendors/1400 patrons/100 volunteers
6. 7 business sponsors

Revenue: \$47,680

Expenses: \$40,536

Net income: \$7,144

8. Changes for 2025—in 2024 the Craft Beer Festival moved to Courtland Commons. It was a good setting. We will tweak the site plan a little.
9. Commemorate Old #1 on the tasting glass. Continue partnership with Perfect Brewing to hold a home brewing competition.
10. Goals: Maintain 40+ brewers; grow attendance; maintain a good relationship with Santa Maria and shopping center owners.

C. Farmers Market

1. Village Special Event Permit issued to MCC; Food vendors permitted by Lake County Health Department.
2. Saturday mornings, June – September
3. Location: Downtown Parking lot and
4. Attendance: 35+vendors/400 patrons weekly
5. 20 business sponsors

Revenue: \$18,091

Expenses: \$11,109

Net income: \$6,982

6. Changes for 2025—The Market Manager is planning a full schedule of special market days. The addition of outdoor seating at the new restaurant will necessitate some adjustments to the vendor layout. The NE corner of Park and Seymour may be utilized more this year, but that remains to be seen.
7. Goals: Grow vendor participation and visitors. Add special events for shoppers.

D. Fine Arts Festival

1. Village Special Event Permit is issued to MCC; Food Vendors are permitted by the Lake County Health Department; a Use Agreement is negotiated with Santa Maria.
2. First weekend of September – Saturday and Sunday
3. Location: Courtland Commons
4. Attendance: 40 vendors/4,000 visitors over 2 days
5. Eight business sponsors

Revenue: \$12,844

Expenses: \$10,963
Net Income: \$1,881

7. Changes for 2025: No significant changes are anticipated. We have broadened the festival management team to include a Volunteer Coordinator, Artist Liaison, Music Coordinator, and Site Manager to assist Christa Lawrence with the overall planning and operation of the festival.
8. Goals: Continue to attract a diverse array of excellent artists, offer a high level of service for the artists and for the public.

E. Winter Tree Lighting Festival

1. New in 2024
2. A Village event in partnership with MCC and MPRD
3. Location: Courtland Commons
4. 3,200 visitors
5. 1st Saturday in December
6. 14 business sponsors

Revenue: \$8,692
Expenses \$8,692
Net Income: \$0

8. Changes for 2025: No significant changes anticipated. Expand Kris Kringle Market, tweak site plan; add a Food truck with coffee and hot chocolate.

F. Santa's Cottage

1. Village Special Event Permit to MCC
2. 3 days in December
3. 3 Sponsors
4. Location: Courtland Commons

Revenue: \$505
Expenses: \$1,797
Net Income: (\$1,292)

6. Changes for 2025: No significant changes are anticipated.
7. Goals: Increase cash donations.

G. Bingo

1. Every Month/State Bingo License issued to MCC and Tighthead

2. Partnership with Tighthead and GLMV Chamber of Commerce
3. Location: Tighthead Brewing Co.
4. Two Sponsors

Revenue: \$8,765

Expenses: \$4,671

6. Changes for 2025: No significant changes are anticipated.
7. Goals: Grow attendance and sponsorships.

H. Other Events and Activities

1. Operated 40 days of programming in Downtown Mundelein
2. Published 4 Quarterly Newsletters
3. Held Open House in November at MCC Office
4. Held 2 Business Luncheon Programs
5. Held Annual recognition dinner at Dover Straits
6. Participated in MPRD Boo Bash
7. Increased Facebook and social media presence
8. Participated in Mundelein Community Days and the Mundelein Grand Prix
9. 74 businesses supported MCC events as sponsors.

VI. Goals for 2025

1. Adjust to ever-changing growth and development in the downtown.
2. Review and update MCC By-Laws
3. Fill open vacancy on the MCC Board
4. Prepare for the retirement of long-time director Terry Skriba in January 2026.
5. Increase business and individual memberships
6. Participate in MPRD Cottontail Trail to advance the Marketing effort.
7. Broaden the business sponsorship base for all events.
8. Control expenses
9. Add a new Kids Kringle market in December 2025 at the Dolan Center

VII. Conclusion.

It was a good year for MCC. As always, there were ups and downs; rain for the Craft Beer Festival was a financial hit, but that is an inherent risk with outdoor events. It was disappointing that we could not continue *Fiestas Patrias en Mundelein*, the Mexican Heritage festival we have facilitated for several years, but time and space are limited.

Returning the MCC Business Luncheon series to the calendar, and expanding our participation in other community events like Spring into Summer, Mundelein Grand Prix, Boo Bash, Cottontail Trail, Old #1 Committee, D75 Brat Fest, Mundelein Days, Tool Library, and others demonstrate our commitment to outreach and support of the whole community.

All of our 2024 events were financially successful and well-received by the public, and, for the most part, they are free.

MCC has a broad base of volunteers and a hardworking Board of Directors. We are pleased with the new business and community partnerships we have made this year, and the past relationships that we have strengthened.

Thank you for your support.

Recommendation:

To: Commission Members

From: Amanda Orenchuk, Director of Community Development

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Planning and Zoning Commission

Attachments:

None

Background:

Accomplishments

The Planning and Zoning Commission held 8 meetings and heard 12 cases in 2024 that proceeded to the Board of Trustees. The major hearings this year were:

- Flaherty & Collins - Multi-Family Residential variations for Plaza Circle Development
- Advantage Material Handling - Forklift sales and rental relocation to Townline Road
- Springs at Mundelein - Preliminary and Final Plat of Subdivision - Butterfield Road Apartments
- Fenton Brewing - Plat of Vacation at former Water Division building
- Flaherty & Collins - Townhouses (Special Use Permit) for Plaza Circle development

2025 Goals

In the upcoming year, the Planning and Zoning Commission will be reviewing a substantial amount of text amendments with Village staff to update the zoning code.

Recommendation:

To: Commission Members

From: Amanda Orenchuk, Director of Community Development

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Mundelein Arts Commission

Attachments:

None

Background:

Major Accomplishments – FY2025

1. Hand Sculpture (Name TBD)

- The MAC commissioned a sculpture by artist Meg White. The piece will be sculpted from limestone and will represent an outstretched, supportive hand with the palm at “bench height” to invite visitors to sit on it.
- The piece will be installed in the Pollinator Garden at Courtland Commons, at the opposite end from Earth Flight.
- The piece is expected to be completed in the summer of 2025, and there is some site preparation to occur (concrete footer, landscaping, signage). The 2nd payment to the artist (\$8,500) will be due upon completion.

2. Lure of the Local

- The MAC organized their 3rd annual Lure of the Local exhibition this year, which is a two-month pop-up art exhibition that features a curated collection of local artists from Mundelein and Lake County in varying stages of careers and backgrounds.
- This year’s theme was “Color Wheel”. The event was more programmed this year, with two pop-up events every weekend.
- This year featured a new location at the Village-owned Archer Business Center. A good amount of this year’s Lure of the Local budget went to making an interior space more public-friendly suitable for an art exhibition.
- The opening reception was very lively and well attended, with about 600 attendees (up from 400 last year).
- Fundraising was a big focus this year through a donation box, raffle tickets, and bar tips. Approximately \$2,183.20 in donations have been collected for the Kracklauer

Fund for Public Art.

3. Summer Shakespeare Shorts

- A Midsummer Night's Dream was performed this summer by a youth cast (ages 13-18) at the new Village-owned parklet on Park Street.
- The park was a perfect location for a small performance. It is appropriately sized, has a nice backdrop featuring the Mundelein mural, and the play furniture makes for fun performance props/scenery.

4. High School Student Scholarship

- For a 2nd year, the MAC awarded scholarships to three MHS students that are pursuing further education in the arts. A MAC subcommittee worked closely with the MHS Fine and Applied Arts Department to select students on a nomination basis and hold interviews.
- The Mundelein Arts Commission awarded \$1,000 college scholarships to three outstanding MHS students: percussionist Samuel Penteado, who will study music performance at Berklee College of Music; trumpeter Aldre Delos Santos, who will pursue jazz studies and music business at Elmhurst University; and Leandro Ocampo, who will study acting at Western Michigan University.
- The program will continue in 2025, and the MAC is currently holding interviews with this year's candidates.

5. Arts and Ales Fundraising Event at Tonality Brewing Company

- The MAC hosted their first fundraiser event this year at Tonality Brewing Company. Artists donated pieces, which were raffled off while attendees listened to live music by local musicians.

6. A total of \$1,035.00 was raised for the Kracklauer Fund for Public Art.

Ongoing Programs

1. Christmas Carol Live Musical Radio Play

- The MAC canceled the annual live Christmas Carol, written and directed by Joyce Lee and co-directed by Jon Matousek, due to scheduling conflicts.

2. Mundelein Grand Prix

- For a 4th year, the MAC worked with local artists to create chalk art installations across the racecourse.
- The MAC hosted a booth near the main stage area and handed away branded cowbells, which are always very popular. There is also a taped-off area for artists to create chalk art to entertain passersby, as well as provide entertainment for kids.

3. Community Days

- The MAC hosted craft workshops for kids at the 2024 Community Days. The MAC intends to continue this same tradition at this year's Community Days with a different kid-friendly DIY craft.

- The MAC started attending the parade with a float decorated by two commissioners.
- 4. Events at New Park on Park Street
 - The MAC intends to continue arts programming for the new park on Park Street, which has been a great venue for certain event types. This year will feature for a 2nd time:
 - i. Poetry and Storytelling Showcase
 - ii. Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam

Goals for FY2026

1. Hand Sculpture Implementation
 - Prepare for a successful installation, naming, and rolling out of the new sculpture to be installed in the summer of 2025.
2. Fundraising
 - The MAC has begun focusing on fundraising in recent years, with the goal of adding funds to the Kracklauer Fund for Public Art. The fund is reserved for public art uses. A little over \$5,200.00 has been raised by the MAC over the past three fiscal years.
3. Small, Incremental Public Art Installations
 - The MAC has a few ideas to support additional small, cost-effective ways to introduce public art to Mundelein:
 - i. S'Murals (Small Murals) – Work with local artists and local property owners to install a series of small murals (4'x4' or smaller) around town.
 - ii. Text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to streamline the approval process for small murals under a certain square footage to encourage more private mural installations.
 - iii. Put out a call for artist to create a database of local artists that can paint murals. The idea is to act as a “matchmaker” when property owners are interested in installing murals but are looking for direction on artists.

Recommendation:

To: Commission Members

From: Amanda Orenchuk, Director of Community Development

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Economic Development Commission

Attachments:

1. 2025-2026 EDC Goals and Objectives
2. 2025 Infrastructure Recommendations

Background:

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) serves as an advisory body to the Village Board on matters related to the business community. Annually, the EDC provides a written report to the Village Board to summarize current conditions and review the previous year's activities. While the efforts of the Village and recommendations to support the Downtown are ongoing, this report reflects conditions of the entire Village. The EDC found that additional areas and activities of the Village merit recognition and further investigation.

One important component of the report, and prior editions, is to provide the Village Board with a summary of public and private improvements, notable economic activity, and other economic initiatives which occurred within the Village in the previous year. The report is not intended to be an exhaustive list of activities and improvements, rather it is intended to highlight a sampling of items which contributed, negatively or positively, to the local business environment.

The presentation and time with the Village Board is utilized by the Economic Development Commission to provide recommendations to the Mayor and Trustees for projects to be incorporated into the Village budget for the upcoming budget cycles. It is also an opportunity to understand what the Village would like the EDC to focus their efforts on in the community. The Commission's 2025 Recommendations are provided as an attachment to this report.

2024 ECONOMIC ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Public Sector Improvements

1. Park Street Improvements – Completed
2. Alley behind 425-469 N Lake St and public parking lot – Completed

3. Courtland Commons - Completed
4. Pollinator Garden - Complete
5. Alley behind 440 E Hawley St - Complete

Private Sector Improvements

1. STAR Grants Approved:
 - Stankovic Music Learning Center
2. BIG Grants Approved:
 - Tropical Smoothie Café – 518 Townline Rd
 - Revel Taste – 1355 Armour Blvd
3. Private Developments:
 - Sheldon Woods Subdivision - Under Construction
 - 250 Plaza Circle - Station 250 - Completed
 - Cardinal Square Buildings D1 and D2 - Completed
 - Morris Station - Completed
 - Mundelein Senior Apartments - Under Construction, near completion
 - The Townes at Oak Creek - Under Construction
 - The Philly Special Expansion - Under Construction
 - Thornton's - Completed
 - Scooters Coffee - Completed
 - The Crossings of Mundelein - Completed

Business Highlights

1.	Carpets in the Park	Relocation	537 N Lake St
2.	Chelitos	Name Change	506 N Lake St
3.	Cobalt Pools	New Business	401 Washington Blvd
4.	Day's Treats Bakery	New Business	300 N Lake St
5.	Domas Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	New Business	901 E Orchard St Unit B
6.	El Mana Bakery	Name Change	500 N Lake St
7.	Hidden Door Tattoo	New Business	143 N Seymour Ave
8.	Jiffy Lube	New Business	3 Sysmex Way
9.	John Gibson Enterprises	New Business	106 Terrace Dr
10.	Julio's Tacos	New Business	860 IL Route 83

11.	Lake County Tool Library	Relocation and Name Change	309 N Seymour Ave
12.	Los Perez Supermarket	Name Change	325 N Seymour Ave
13.	Mundelein Family Dental	New Business	718 S State Route 83
14.	Moore Supplies	Relocation	1550 McCormick Blvd
15.	Premier Veterinary Group Mundelein	New Business	1385 Townline Rd
16.	Prueitt Construction	New Business	1230 Allanson Rd
17.	Salon Boutique	New Business	1511 S Lake St
18.	Scooter's Coffee	New Business	214 Oak Creek Plaza
19.	Smile Spa	New Business	75 E Division St
20.	The Dog Stop Mundelein	New Business	1551 S Lake St
21.	The Philly Special	Expansion	1408 Butterfield Rd
22.	Thornton's	New Business	739 N Lake St
23.	Turbo Armory PPF	New Business	615 S Lake St
24.	Venture Athletics	Relocation	8 Oak Creek Plaza
25.	Whimsy Day Play	New Business	820 IL Route 83

Notable Business Closings

1.	CVS Pharmacy	1101 West Maple Avenue
2.	American Mattress	1474 Butterfield Road
3.	Lakeside Transportation	333 Washington Boulevard
4.	Lucky Bites	605 North Midlothian Rpad

2024 EDC ACTIVITIES

Business Appreciation Breakfast. The Business Appreciation Breakfast was on February 22, 2024. There were a total of 169 attendees representing 68 businesses. The 2025 Business Appreciation Breakfast is scheduled for February 26, 2025.

Business Outreach. During the year, the EDC made several efforts to reach out to local businesses. It is estimated that the Commission contacted over 70 businesses throughout the year between their efforts to advertise the business registration requirements, Village Grant programs, ribbon cutting

events, and business check-ins.

Chamber Membership Grant Program. The Commission continued to advertise the Chamber Membership Grant Program. This program offers businesses a chance to have their membership costs covered for organizations such as the Green Oaks, Libertyville, Mundelein, Vernon Hills Chamber of Commerce; the Lake County Chamber of Commerce; the Black Chamber of Commerce of Lake County; and Mundelein Community Connection.

Gold Star Awards. The Commission once again selected recipients of the annual Gold Star Awards. In 2024, the Commission created four categories from the nominations: business investment/expansion, community involvement, customer service, and Mundy pride. The Nominations for the 2024 Awards are as follows:

- Business Investment/Expansion:
 - Smokin' BBQ on 45
- Community Involvement:
 - Tonality Brewing Company
- Customer Service:
 - MGN Lock and Key
- Mundy Pride:
 - Ultimate Screen Printing

Guest Speakers/Education. From time to time, the EDC invites guest speakers to attend EDC meetings and provide more information about their organization. This is part of the EDC's goal of educating both themselves and the public. Guest speakers in 2024 who attended or provided updates to the Commission included: Mike Flynn of Mundelein Community Connection, Ed Gallagher of PACE, and Alexander Kapotas of Mundelein High School. In addition to guest speakers, EDC members attended regional events to learn more about specific programs, lectures on current market trends, and tours of local facilities. Events and visits included: Lake County Partners quarterly municipal meetings, the LCP BIG Event, among others.

S.T.A.R Grant. After two years of considering additional options to assist businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent inflation, employment, and market volatility, the Commission implemented a new grant program available to Mundelein businesses. The S.T.A.R. grant program was created and approved by the Village Board in May 2022. Through small (<\$5,000) grants, this program was intended to give businesses an option to improve their operation, respond to a financial crisis, or offset unexpected costs in a time of need. The EDC received one application for the STAR Grant, and was approved and received funding in 2024. The Commission approved STAR Grants for Stankovic Music Learning Center at 510 N. Lake Street.

Vacancy Data Collection. As an economic tool, Village Staff keep a database of commercial and industrial properties and their tenants. This data provides numerous benefits to the Village; however, it is a laborious process to maintain the data. EDC members were able to assist staff in updating this

data by verifying or editing occupancy data. The EDC continues to regularly advise Staff on business vacancies.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Key Vacancies. The Village has made outstanding progress on notable vacancies within the last few years. The Oak Creek Plaza shopping center (200,000 square feet) was demolished in 2022. Another 26,000 square feet at the former Elite Motors property (812 N Lake Street) has now been occupied by the Auto Land Group car dealership. The new industrial flex space at 1300 Allanson Road (195,000 square feet) has been occupied by industrial warehouse tenants Alltech Automotive and Larsen Manufacturing. This astounding progress is noticeable and suggests that Mundelein's current growth has had a balancing effect on the local business environment. This growth can be seen in the year-over-year vacancy numbers shown below.

Current vacancy statistics for Mundelein as a whole. Due to variations in the methods of data collection, both Village-maintained data and CoStar data are provided.

Village-Maintained Data

Commercial Occupancy 89.25%
Industrial Occupancy 88.44%
Downtown Occupancy 82.49%
Village-Wide Occupancy 88.74%
*Bridge Development Came online

While the story of 2024 has been very positive, there are still some vacancies within the Village worth noting. The most notable outstanding vacancies are:

1. 420 North Lake Street (Former Walgreens and other shopping center spaces), 16,200 SF (chronic)
2. 440 East Hawley Street (Former Old Village Hall Site), 23,000 SF (chronic)
3. 333 Washington Boulevard (Former Lakeside Transpiration), 32,855 SF (recent)
4. 1040 and 1050 High Street, 40,000 SF total (recent)

Ongoing Economic Development and Planning Projects

1. Additional Outdoor Dining Improvements & Phase Two of Park Street
2. Chamber Membership Grant Re-evaluation
3. Additional Marketing for the STAR Grant
4. Village Plaza Circle Improvements
5. Bank Triangle Redevelopment
6. Renovation or Redevelopment of Mundelein Shopping Center (Taste of Paris through Roller Rink)
7. Program review and development for Micro Retail

SUMMARY

The past year brought new challenges to the already complex environment Mundelein businesses must compete in. While the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is diminished, the present business environment remains volatile, and the EDC spent much of the past year exploring what resources are available to businesses and which resources are most needed. Programs and EDC initiatives such as the S.T.A.R. grant, Chamber Membership Grant, Business Appreciation Breakfast, and the business registration outreach campaign were all attempts by the Commission to positively impact the business environment during these difficult times. The EDC praises local business owners, entrepreneurs, and managers for adapting to the environment in so many unique and innovative ways and the Village of Mundelein for helping through a variety of programs.

Despite the hardships being faced by many businesses within the Village, the local business environment is generally favorable when compared to other regions and even several peer communities within Lake County. Mundelein has a diverse economy, a large workforce population, and is seeing continued development in commercial sectors, industrial sectors, and residential sectors. For these reasons, the EDC is optimistic about the immediate future for businesses in Mundelein. Furthermore, the EDC commends the Village Board for its positive influence on the business community over the past year through the execution of public works projects, business assistance grants, and exceptional public services.

Recommendation:

2025/2026 EDC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Economic Development Commission Purpose Statement

“The economic development commission shall endeavor to attract business and industry for the Village of Mundelein which will reflect credit to the Village. The Commission shall also endeavor to retain and promote business and industry within the Village. The Commission shall serve as an advisory body to the Village Board on matters related to the business community. The Commission shall have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned to it from time to time by the President and Board of Trustees of Mundelein”

Mundelein Brand Promise

“Mundelein will be central Lake County’s premier location for entrepreneurs and known as a welcoming community.”

PURPOSE

The following goals and objectives of the Economic Development Commission have been developed to advance the objectives of the statements above. These goals and objectives provide a framework and include specific actions for the EDC to undertake during the course of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

IMPLEMENTATION

Committees composed of two EDC members have been assigned to each of the five priorities below. Throughout the year, these members strive to implement the goals and objectives contained within that priority as noted below. Regular reports from each Committee are presented at Commission meetings to inform the group. Additionally, EDC members will each be assigned to a ‘district’ of the Village. To advance the Goals and Objectives of the Commission, EDC members will conduct site visits, offer Village assistance, gather feedback, and establish relationships with the businesses within their district throughout the year and report their findings back to the Commission.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize Local Businesses

a. Goals

- i. Administer or promote award programs.
- ii. Publicly recognize the contribution of local businesses to the community and economy of Mundelein.
- iii. Promote and attend events highlighting achievements or contributions of local businesses.

b. Objectives

- i. Select recipients of the Gold Star Award, an award created by the EDC for recognition of local business achievements. The EDC shall promote the award recipients through Village newsletters, at EDC events, and other innovative methods.
- ii. Host a Business Appreciation Breakfast in recognition of the impact the business community has on the community.
- iii. At least one EDC member will attend ribbon cutting or groundbreaking ceremonies to celebrate alongside the business.

2. Advise the Village Board

- a. Goals
 - i. Inform the Village Board of the Village's impact on local businesses.
 - ii. Report to the Village Board the current conditions affecting the business community.
 - iii. As needed, research and advise the Village Board on business-related trends or issues that may arise from time to time.
- b. Objectives
 - i. Prepare an annual economic and activity report for the Village Board highlighting EDC activities and a general economic summary of the Village.
 - ii. Prepare an annual list of recommended public improvements for the Village Board's consideration. Recommended public improvements shall be those which would have a significant and positive impact on the local business community.
 - iii. Prepare reports or recommendations to the Village Board on specific topics or issues which have a significant impact on local businesses.

3. Retain Existing Businesses

- a. Goals
 - i. Develop and promote Village marketing materials that demonstrate the assets and value of Mundelein.
 - ii. Promote and explain Village programs, grants, or other incentives to Mundelein Businesses.
 - iii. Communicate and foster relationships with local businesses.
- b. Objectives
 - i. Review, distribute, and promote the Village's New Business Packet.
 - ii. Promote and explain the Business Incentive Grant program or other Village grants to Mundelein Businesses. Ensure that all businesses are informed about the availability of such programs.
 - iii. EDC members are to conduct two (2) business site visits each quarter to local businesses to receive feedback on Village activities and identify factors contributing to local businesses' successes or struggles. Utilize the information from these communications to guide EDC actions or address issues affecting local businesses with the help of Village Staff. Alternatively, EDC members may conduct "wellness check" phone calls.
 - iv. As needed, hold informational meetings to inform local businesses of the Village's activities, policies, plans, or economic conditions.

4. Attract New Businesses

- a. Goals
 - i. Hold events to inform business professionals of local opportunities.
 - ii. Attend business development meetings to promote opportunity sites within Mundelein.
 - iii. Ensure that the information and data needed by potential businesses is readily available.
- b. Objectives

- i. Hold an annual event(s) to inform real estate agents, developers, brokers, and other business professionals of local opportunities.
- ii. Promote restaurant opportunity sites within Mundelein.
- iii. Work with Village staff to update and promote available properties and development opportunities on the Village's website and print materials.

5. Educate EDC Members, the Village Board, and the Public

a. Goals

- i. Attend regional or local meetings to further Commission member's
- ii. understanding of local conditions or the activities of other agencies.
- iii. Invite other economic development professionals or leaders to EDC meetings.
- iv. Promote local events to foster additional participation and outreach from the local business community.

b. Objectives

- i. Create an informational handout describing how the Commission can help businesses.
- ii. Invite the Presidents of Lake County Partners, Visit Lake County, Mundelein Community Connection, and other regional groups to an EDC meeting.
- iii. A minimum of one EDC member will attend each Lake County Partners Municipal Economic Advisory Group Meetings.
- iv. A minimum of one EDC member will attend Lake County Partners' annual BIG Event.
- v. Attend general economic development meetings such as Regional Transportation Authority, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, Illinois Restaurant Association, Lake County Partners, Lake County government, Lake County Transportation Alliance, Lake County Chamber of Commerce, or GLMV.
- vi. Review and summarize data provided by a variety of sources such as Lake County Partners, CoStar, Village vacancy report, census, Dept. of Labor, etc. relating to the health of the Village's economic climate.

To: Mayor Steve Lentz
Village Board of Trustees

From: Economic Development Commission

Re: 2025 EDC Public Improvement Recommendations

Background

The Strategic Plan for Improving the Economic Development of Downtown Mundelein adopted by the Village Board in December 2012 calls for the Village Staff to prepare an annual Activity report for review by the Economic Development Commission (EDC), and for the EDC to make recommendations to the Village Board regarding public improvement projects that would improve linkages, appearance, and the economic vitality of the downtown. The Village Board can take these recommendations into consideration when finalizing the Village budget for the following year. A companion report, the 2024 EDC Annual Report, provides background on activities in the Village over the last year.

Introduction

The continued dedication of the Village Board to achieve a cohesive vision for the Village and implement Village planning documents is noteworthy. The EDC recognizes and commends that 2024 has truly been a monumental year in the growth of the village and the EDC wishes to commend the Board for its significant investment, economic incentives, public improvement projects and planning initiatives that it made in 2024. The EDC, in its role as an advisory Commission to the Board and to further support these initiatives, has identified a limited number of public infrastructure projects which would substantially contribute to the local business environment. While the Board may determine that other public projects should take precedence over these, it is the opinion of the EDC that the projects identified in this report would have the greatest impact on local businesses and would foster additional economic growth in the Village.

2025 Recommendations

1. Continued Beautification and Branding in the Downtown/East Hawley Street

One of the most prominent entrances to downtown Mundelein is the Route 176/Hawley Street entrance. The gazebo, memorial and landscaping are attractive, but the east end of the island is lacking interest. In 2019, redevelopment plans were accepted by the Board for this property. The EDC concurs with the vision of this plan and further encourages the Board to implement them in the future.

Additional entryway features, plantings, and streetscaping within the Downtown and the East Hawley Street corridor would contribute positively to the retail and service business environment. Features such as these create an identifiable brand to the area and support the area as a destination worth visiting.

2. Reconstruction of Morris Avenue South of Park Street.

The EDC recognizes that the northern half of Morris Avenue, from Park Street to Maple Avenue, was reconstructed in 2023 as part of the Morris Station Development. This section, along with sections of Park Street and Seymour Avenue, was prioritized by the EDC in past recommendations and the EDC commends the Village Board and Staff for incorporating those improvements into the scope of the adjacent development. This will, however, leave the southern half of Morris Avenue in its current, poor condition. The EDC recommends that the Village explore funding opportunities and consider budgeting funds to reconstruct the balance of the street. Nine businesses have direct connections to this road and are dependent on it as a means for access. The EDC believes that reconstructing the roadway would encourage private investment in the adjacent properties and attract new businesses to the area.

3. Support Community Events and Downtown Placemaking.

Plaza Circle remains a critical component of the Village's 2004 Transit Oriented Development Plan, 2012 Master Redevelopment Improvement Plan, and 2017 Downtown North Implementation Plan. The EDC fully supports these plans and their recommendations to bring activity into our Downtown. The EDC commends the Village for introducing and supporting new and existing civic events in the downtown area such as the Mundelein Farmers Market, the Mundelein Grand Prix, BrewFest, Santa's Cottage, Festival de Fiestas Patrias, Park on Park, Community Days, and the summer concert series. A fully built Plaza Circle, with new vertical development adjoining it will bolster these events and will build upon residents' community pride. The EDC recommends that the Board make programming Plaza Circle through both the built environment and civic events a priority. Additionally, the addition of new events has supported local businesses and fostered a spirit of community. Continued support of these initiatives and new ones such as the Cultural Arts Center concept for the Archer Business Center will further build upon the Village's present success.

4. Millennium Trail/North Shore Bike Path Connection

The Village's Downtown North Implementation Plan creates a vision for certain enhancements along East Hawley Street. The EDC fully supports this vision and recommends that the Board begin implementation of these improvements. A bicycle/pedestrian pathway linking the Millennium Trail to the North Shore Bike Path is of utmost importance. Currently, there exists a one-mile gap in the trail network between Lake Street and Brice Avenue. Creating a connection in this gap would not only improve pedestrian accessibility for the entire region, but it would also provide an economic benefit to Mundelein businesses. Downtown Mundelein has twenty-two restaurants, a bicycle shop, two bakeries, and many other small businesses which stand to benefit from an increase in pedestrian traffic.

While the two trail networks often skirt around other communities or travel for long distances through the Forest Preserves, a connection along Hawley Street is an opportunity to bring trail users

from across Lake County and beyond right to the doorsteps of Mundelein businesses. The DNIP's recommendation for a cycle track or similar facilities should be implemented.

5. Shaddle Avenue Stormwater Improvements

The area along South Shaddle Avenue between East Orchard Avenue and East High Street experiences a large amount of surface water during rainstorm events. The pooling of water often occurs along the roadways and driveways in this vicinity and substantially impacts the local businesses' operations. This flooding is largely the result of poor stormwater infrastructure and engineering practices when the area was developed in the late 1970's.

The EDC recommends that the Village explore opportunities to study the stormwater situation and evaluate options for possible public improvements. While the answer to improving the situation may require action and investment from the property owners, the EDC recognizes that this is a challenge imposed on multiple properties and recommends that the Village study its ability to alleviate the flooding situation.

6. Allanson Road and Butterfield Road Sidewalk Installation

Allanson Road and Butterfield Road are major thoroughfares with heavy traffic, crossing through the municipalities of Mundelein and Vernon Hills. These roads serve as key connectors between the manufacturing districts and the general commercial areas on the southern end of town.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) has received concerns regarding pedestrian safety, particularly during high-traffic periods, as pedestrians are often seen walking along the road or in the grassy parkway areas. In response, the EDC recommends that the Village explore the feasibility of installing sidewalks on both sides of Allanson Road and Butterfield Road.

While the EDC acknowledges the challenges related to rights-of-way ownership and railroad crossings, it encourages the Village to seek collaborative partnerships with the county, state, and the Village of Vernon Hills to address these concerns and enhance pedestrian safety in this critical area.

To: Commission Members

From: Bob Stadlman

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Old # 1 Fire Truck Preservation Committee

Attachments:

None

Background:

Hello, my name is Bob Stadlman and since 2008 I have the honor of being the Chair of Mundelein's Old Number One Fire Truck Preservation Committee.

In 2024, the Old Number One Preservation Committee held 10 Committee Meetings and 4 maintenance and repair events to keep Old Number One, our 100-year-young 1925 Stoughton Fire Truck - in top running condition. And again, this year - without any break-downs.

Old Number One participated in 22 events in and around Lake County for the enjoyment of all. That would represent well over 15,000 impressions.

These events include:

1. Park on Park Car Shows – 3 times last year.
2. Gurnee Fire Safety Show.
3. Washington School Fun Fair.
4. Memorial Day Parade.
5. Libertyville Parade.
6. Mundelein's Farmers Market – again, 3 times last year.
7. Drive the Village Program – these are on 3 Saturday mornings in June where we try to drive all the streets in the Village. We will bring the parade to your neighborhood.
8. Community Days Car Show.
9. Mundelein's Independence Day Parade.
10. Mundelein Bike Race, an all-day event.
11. The Lake County Fair.
12. Old Number One Annual Golf Outing.
13. National Night Out.

14. Grand Dominion Car Show.
15. Carl Sandburg Brat Fest.
16. Fire Department's Open House.
17. Cars and Cigars Car Show – a Special Olympics Car Show in Long Grove.

Kids young and old rang Old Number One's bell over 23,400 times.

All of this activity of events and committee meetings means that this group of volunteers has worked a total of over 600 hours in 2024, or on average 50 volunteer hours per 12 committee members.

That old fire truck is 100 years old this year – WOW – 100—we want to have some fun with it! Not many communities can say that they have their very first 100-year-old fire truck! And it's running great and looking great!

We are planning to participate in 6 new events this year, for a total of 32 events in 2025. These events should be very momentous occasions as we try to celebrate this anniversary/birthday many times this year. These celebrations will not only commemorate the heritage of the Village of Mundelein, but also the history we have had with the University of St. Mary's of the Lake Seminary. This 100-year-old fire truck is a very important part of why our Village is named Mundelein.

George Cardinal Mundelein purchased this fire truck and presented it to the Village in 1925, in thanks for the Village changing their name to Mundelein.

We continue to keep this beautiful piece of history – running, and looking good - year after year and showing people all over Northern Illinois – the heritage and history that Mundelein has - at the same time our Village continues to develop and grow and expand!

This Fire Truck Preservation Committee has been running on donations since 2008. No tax dollars or Village funds come our way.

I respectfully ask for your participation and help with some of these 100th Anniversary celebrations this year. This is all about Mundelein!

Our needs are:

- 100th Anniversary banners for Community Days, the Museum and Tighthead.
- 100th Anniversary banners for the Fire Stations.
- 100th Anniversary banners for a few of the Light poles in the Village.
- 100th American Flag banners for the sides of Old Number One.
- Funds for printing of our 100th year baseball cards.
- Birthday Cakes for a celebration at the Heritage Museum on the 5th of July.
- Help with an Antique Fire Truck Show / Birthday Party in August at Tighthead which will include food trucks, live music, trophies and again, birthday cakes.
- Help with giveaways for some of our events.
- Help working with the Seminary on celebrations.

These will all be FUN events centered around Mundelein's beautiful old fire truck – Old Number One! Thank you.

Bob Stadlman

Chair, Mundelein's Old Number One Fire Truck Preservation Committee

Recommendation:

To: Commission Members

From: Jenny Ross

For: Committee of the Whole of February 24, 2025

Subject: Annual Report - Beautification Committee

Attachments:

None

Background:

MUNDELEIN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2023

BACKGROUND

The ordinance establishing the Mundelein Beautification Committee was adopted in November 2021. It directed the Committee to:

- Advise the Mayor and Board of Trustees.
- Collaborate with other organizations as appropriate.
- To develop plans and programs to enhance Mundelein's scenic environment and its aesthetic appearance.
- Plan the administration of programs and activities to protect Mundelein's natural beauty and enhance the community's quality of life with beautification initiatives.
- Research and evaluate programs and projects that encourage public participation in enhancing Mundelein's natural beauty.
- Advise the board of Trustees on strategies and projects that contribute to Mundelein's appearance through landscaping and related public improvements.

The Ordinance also called for the Committee to submit a written report on its activities of the preceding year to the Mayor and Board 90 days following the end of the calendar year.

This is the ***2024 Annual Report of the Mundelein Beautification Committee.***

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

A substantial portion of the Committee's work focuses on beautification through landscape

improvements and bringing awareness to the community on small efforts that have a big impact on landscape improvements.

The Beautification Committee has placed an emphasis on enhancing and promoting monarch and pollinator conservation and encouraging marigold plantings throughout Mundelein.

The Beautification Committee's objective in 2024 was to increase volunteer efforts and to add ongoing projects that will enhance the beautification of Mundelein. To help accomplish this, the Beautification Committee met with Cheri Neal, Zion Township Supervisor, to learn about her Zinnias for Zion program and beautification efforts and with representatives from the Village of Long Grove who told us about their work with America in Bloom and their involvement in the Dark Skies initiative.

2024 OVERVIEW and ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Excellence in Gardening and Excellence in Decorating Awards: In 2024, the Beautification Committee created a new program to recognize excellence in gardening, fall decorating and winter decorating. Bookmarks with a QR code to introduce the Beautification Committee were created in English and Spanish. These were distributed throughout the Community. Awards were given out for Excellence in Gardening, Excellence in Fall Decorations and Excellence in Winter Decorations.

Roadside Cleanups: The Beautification Committee hosted 3 roadside cleanup events in Mundelein to remove trash and beautify our community.

Community Events: The Beautification Committee participated in two Mundelein Farmer's Markets, Mundelein Days, the District 75 Bratfest, and Winter Fest before the Tree Lighting. We distributed our bookmarks and shared information about our programs and activities.

Mayor's Monarch Pledge: In 2024, Mayor Steve Lentz signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayor's Monarch Pledge and proclaimed that the Village of Mundelein would encourage monarchs in our community. The Beautification Committee will continue to educate the community about monarchs and host events that encourage plants that attract the Monarch and submitted a report documenting our activities and accomplishments in the fall.

Spring into Summer Fest: Mundelein's Beautification Committee in partnership with Tighthead Brewery hosted a family friendly Spring into Summer Festival on June 1. The half-day event featured several children's activities, an expert presentation on native landscaping, great food and music, information booths, and plant and seed giveaways. The event helped to inform the community about the important work of the Beautification Committee and provide information on simple sustainability practices we can all implement to make a significant positive impact in our community and our world. The event was well received despite the rain. A 2025 event has been planned with even more events.

Past activities:

In previous years, the Beautification Committee Initiated a downtown community beautification effort to increase the number of flowers in this high-profile area by installing 60 hanging baskets-

Route 45 and Seymour Ave. The Beautification Committee was also involved in planting two pollinator gardens, one at Courtland Commons and the other at the Mundelein Village Hall.

2025 PLANS

The Beautification Committee is planning more activities and initiatives in 2025. These include:

1. Spring into Summer Fest - Saturday, May 31 from noon - 4:00 at Tighthead Brewery.
2. Dividing and Spring updates and additions to our pollinator garden at the Mundelein Village Hall.
3. Excellence in Gardening awards this summer.
4. More cleanup events.
5. Audubon Society Bird City designation.

FUNDING

The Village generously budgets \$10,000 for this committee. As the committee refines its scope and expands its recurring events and project goals, the funds will be used for branding, giveaways, educational events, and community beautification projects.

CONCLUSION

Every action that the Beautification Committee takes to beautify the community helps to support Mundelein's Brand Promise to be welcoming to everyone who lives here, owns a business, visits, or contemplates Mundelein as a place to live or launch their dreams.

The Beautification Committee is making a positive impact on the Village of Mundelein and is a visible part of the community.

Recommendation: