

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
City of Germantown  
Feb 19, 2026  
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Tom Winning, Mike Kuhn, Mark Heistand, Bryce Henson, Heidi Grant, Kenneth Tudor

Staff Present: Mike Lucking, Economic Development Consultant; Dave Eshbaugh, Project Manager; Will Parsons, Community Relations Manager; Judy Gilleland, City Manager; Sheree Henson, Downtown Events Coordinator

Also Present: Jeri Lewis, Destination Dayton

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am.

**Approval of Minutes**

The January 2026 EDC meeting minutes were approved, with the addendum that Ken did not have a meeting with Scott Weidle, nor was one planned.

**Business**

The group introduced themselves to Jeri. She shared a little about the history of Destination Dayton, which formerly was the Montgomery County Visitors Bureau. She explained what the goals are of a destination marketing organization. These include promoting county attractions, branding the destination, promoting visitor spending, and promoting community and industry collaboration.

Jeri then shared about the Destination Dayton Tourism Academy and encouraged everyone to take the course. She also said that there is a DD blog that we can submit content to. Jeri then shared some of the conferences and events that she has attended that have been held in Dayton. She also mentioned a current focus on promoting day trips to the region.

Mark said that a good blog posting would be sharing about the grant that the Florentine received. He also said that the Covered Bridge project would be a good posting.

Sheree then shared about the second annual Galentine's event. Nine businesses and the Library participated. These were New View Nutrition, Laffs, Alleyway Café, Hedy and Company, Harvest Moon, Milk and Hunny, and Sweet Rivers. All the business Sheree has talked to said it went well and better than last year. Two said it was their best night since December. Everyone wants to see it continued annually.

Some small changes for next year include more signage and an event logo. The group discussed other holiday/seasonal events. Dave said a Derby party could work. Heidi mentioned Waynesville's Open House. A "Lion Trail" scavenger hunt was also discussed. Mark and Tom touched on Founder's Day expanding this year, though there is not currently a lot of commercial tie-in.

Center Street Market is returning this year, starting in April. There are currently about 30 vendors. Not every vendor is participating every month. There will not be a September market. Ryan Brock, the Coordinator, was amenable to trying a night market, though he is unable to plan it. Sheree and Will will reach out to vendors to test the waters. Saturday Night Out is every other month this year, so not happening in July, A July night market could tie in to America 250. Dave and Nick Ranson are tossing around event ideas as well. There are some grants available for America 250, but cities have to apply. Dave thinks there should be events every month.

Ken mentioned the "Adventure Summit" at Wright State. He has also been thinking of creating a kayak swap meet held in Veterans Park. He is considering dates in May to hold it.

Mike L had good meetings this past month. He met with Frank Dupps and had a preliminary meeting with a developer regarding Circle K. He and Dave also talked with Steve Roush.

The group briefly discussed property acquisitions by a B. Oakley both in Germantown and in neighboring communities.

**Adjourned at 10:40 am**