



Economic Development Group of Wabash County

May 2010

Dedicated to Creating Economic and Employment Opportunities for the People and Businesses of Wabash County.

EDG Invites Friends and Members to an Open House



EDG sponsored exhibit comes to a close. Take one last look at “Out from Lincoln’s Shadow: Stephen A. Douglas,”

Plan to join EDG on May 27th from 4:30 to 6:30 at the Wabash County Historical Museum as we close out this amazing exhibit. We are extending this invitation to EDG friends and members. If you have never been to the museum this is the perfect time! Please join us free of charge to enjoy refreshments and all that the museum has to offer.

Wabash County Historical Museum

The collection of original documents and art belongs to collector George Buss, from Freeport, Illinois. Buss, a well-known portrayer of Lincoln, first came to Wabash last April to present a Presidential “press conference” with his colleague, Bob Lenz, on behalf of the Abraham Lincoln Association. While touring the museum’s exhibit, Lenz suggested that Buss’ collection would fit nicely in the changing exhibit space. “The planning started right then and there,” said Stewart.



Portrait of Stephen Douglas

“It is entirely appropriate to have this exhibit in the year 2010, the sesquicentennial of Lincoln’s election,” said Tracy Stewart, the museum’s executive director. “Stephen Douglas and the series of debates he had with Lincoln helped put Lincoln on the political map. Because of Lincoln’s tremendous rise to the presidency, Douglas’s importance is overshadowed somewhat. This exhibit will make clear what an important figure Douglas was.”

Douglas, born in Vermont, moved to Illinois in 1833 and enjoyed a steady rise in political offices for the next twenty years. That path hit its first bumps in 1856 when he failed to gain his party’s nomination for President of the United States. Two years later he faced a serious challenge for re-election to his seat in the United States Senate; a challenge mounted by an old colleague—Abraham Lincoln—as well as a challenge from within his own party led by President James Buchanan.

EDG Board of Directors

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- Robert Vanlandingham**
- Jeff Kellam**
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Please RSVP by Monday, May 24.

Give us a call at 260-563-5258 or email Abby at achoy@edgwc.com. We hope that you can join us!

Actions Of The Board

EDG Board of Directors Meetings was held on May 13, 2010 in the EDG Office at 7:30 am. During this meeting April’s financial statements, loan portfolio, website data sheet, membership sheet, minutes and President’s Report were presented and approved by the board.

There we no New Business Items (NBI).

President's Report May 2010



William S.
Konyha
President

These items were reported on by the President:

- **Living Essentials:** We are working on preparing the formal announcement of an expansion that will include 400,000 square feet with 6 additional bottling lines. The additional capital investment will be approximately \$17 million for plan and equipment. EDG is working on payroll numbers but currently anticipates that there will be as many as 96 new jobs.
- **Cinergy Metronet:** Wabash grand opening was held and North Manchester opening is being planned. London Witte Group, the Financial Advisor for the project, completed the tax impact statements. They have determined that the increment will support a bond of about \$5 million. The President is negotiating a contribution of approximately \$1.4 million.
- **Cornerstone Furniture:** The President has met with an auctioneer and inspected the inventory of the store. He advised that we conduct the auction on site to save money on moving all of the inventory but after many attempts EDG was unable to secure permission to get the power turned on and secure insurance. EDG staff is currently working on a viable solution to the problem.
- **Reynolds Oil:** The President met with executives at Reynolds Oil who are interested in acquiring a small patch of ground in the Industrial Park upon which they can install a propane storage facility. Talks are ongoing.
- **Wabash Business Park:** The President has begun the process of designing the park with a committee consisting of Greg Metz (chair of the Redevelopment Authority), Lynn Yohe (Chair of the Economic Redevelopment Commission), Mark Shelley (President of the City Council), and Mr. Konyha. A schedule has been agreed upon and RFQ's have been submitted to several engineering firms. After reviewing qualifications the committee will invite several to submit proposals and make a recommendation to Mayor Vanlandingham. The President is preparing the Phase 1 survey for the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership (NEIRP) Certification Site Program. The same survey will be prepared for the North Manchester Industrial Park—however to proceed there is a great deal of work to be done.



Welcome To Wabash! Cinergy Metronet

Economic Development Group Board Members and staff joined the Wabash County Chamber of Commerce in welcoming Cinergy Metronet to Wabash with an official ribbon cutting on May 5, 2010. The open house took place in their newly renovated office on Market Street (next to the Eagles Theater/across from the Charley Creek Inn). The event was attended by many Wabash residents. If you were unable to attend the open house be sure to visit this new business and show your support!