

Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, May 4, 2021
4:00 p.m.
Virtually via Microsoft Teams, City Hall

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting of the Economic Development Authority was held virtually.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Alice Lenzmeier, Steve Laraway, King Banaian, and Chris Jacques
Members Absent: Tohow Siyad, Bernie Perryman, and Dave Masters
Staff Present: Tammy Campion, Matt Glaesman, Cathy Mehelich and Ruth Wipper

**MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 6, 2021 EDA MEETING
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF MARCH 31, 2021**

ACTION TAKEN: Jacques/Lenzmeier/Approved (4-0)

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACTION TAKEN: None

Banaian reviewed from the last meeting that this is the chance for the EDA to get on the same page as the City Council on their goals that relate to Economic Development. Mehelich reviewed that, while unsure of when we can come back together in person, the goal of getting all informed is still vital.

Mehelich began by reviewing the 2017-2020 EDA Strategic Plan. Starting with “Facilitate Business Sites and Resources”. Discussion over the recent sale of land at the 194 Business Park and the announcement that Amazon is coming to the old Chip Shoppe building on Heatherwood Rd. Moving on to “Enhance Business Climate”, Mehelich talked about how Economic Development and Planning & Zoning work together on this. Next, “Market Assets”, and Mehelich talked about the different audiences that are considered in this goal. “Engage Partners” – Mehelich discussed the recent Innovators Connect event. “Facilitate Redevelopment” – Mehelich spoke specifically to the Gateway Motel tear down and replacement with various businesses including Caribou Coffee. Also reviewed that sometimes locations will not sell, even if we want them to, they are still private owners.

Glaesman reviewed the City Council goals. Glaesman reiterated that many of these goals rely on the strengths of all 300+ City employees and their various roles. Spoke a little more to the Council goals that relate more specifically to Economic Development. Laraway, in his role as a Council Member, reiterated Glaesman’s points and celebrated the goals that the Council had come up with and is excited about the developments on the way.

Banaian started the discussion with asking how the Council goals and EDA goals intersect, and then asking if the EDA is the lead/initiator or support on each particular item. Mehelich continued the conversation about what items have been ED elements historically, and which ones ED may want to step up and help with a little bit more. Banaian indicated that one more element is knowing where ED currently has the tools to take action and get things done to be realistic about what can be accomplished by the board. Banaian also spoke to making sure we take care of our staff and don’t overwork the staff that

is already overworked from the extra stress that COVID brought. Lenzmeier commented to support Banaian's comments on how the EDA needs to appreciate the work the staff does. Lenzmeier also talked about how we "come out" on the other side of COVID now.

OTHER BUSINESS

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

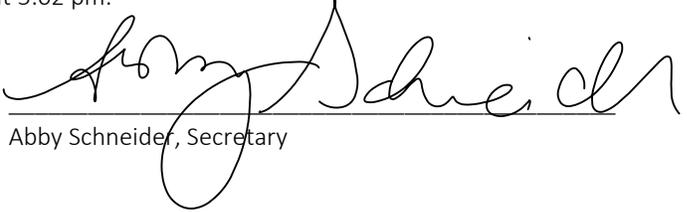
ACTION TAKEN: None

Mehelich reviewed the Innovators Connect event that just occurred, and the restaurant loans through the SBA that our website has promoted and helped businesses find the information.

Campion gave updates on the April development activity and the top employers list. Campion reminded everyone that this is always available on the City's website.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm.



Abby Schneider, Secretary