

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by EDC Chairman Kevin Emerick.

ROLL CALL: EDC MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Bafaro; Tim Budelman; Jill Craig; Kevin Emerick; Steve Krautscheid; Rick Lafave; Juanita Lint; Mark Nakajima; Guy Storms; Tom Raabe; Javier Urenda

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED): Alfredo Moreno, Jim Langstraat, Jonathan Yawson, Rob Langford

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (UNEXCUSED): Jennifer Prickett

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan Riordan; Dick Stinson

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilor Timothy Rippe

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff King, Economic Development Manager; Shannon Reynolds, Admin Assistant

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

None

3. APPROVAL OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES:

A quorum was met. Tim Budelman moved a motion to approve the February EDC meeting minutes. Tom Raabe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

None

5. BUSINESS:

A. Chamber of Commerce Update, Juanita Lint:

Juanita provided a Chamber of Commerce update to the EDC. Both dining grants have been finalized and reports sent out. There is an RFP for the open position of Director of Tourism. There will be a Chamber of Commerce dinner/auction on April 10th, Bella Donna and Primetime will both be participating. A CEP grant will be applied for the "Farm to Table" dinner scheduled in July. Jeff King mentioned two letters of recommendation for Juanita Lint that were sent to Col-Pac EDD regarding the open board member position. They should hear back soon. She will plan attend the meetings in the meant time.

B. City Council Update, Councilor Rippe:

Councilor Rippe provided a City Council update to the EDC. The annual retreat was held on Feb. 20th. Goals and Objectives were addressed. They will have additional work sessions. Economic recovery was discussed, they will continue to reach out to the EDC for continued support on various goals and objectives.

C. Festival Street and Oak Street Projects, Dan Riordan, Sr. Planner

Dan Riordan presented 21st Avenue Festival Street & Downtown Streetscape design concepts and the Oak Street Land Use refinement Plan to the EDC. Surveys have been sent out and compiled and initial planning has been started. Members discussed various question they had on the initial design plans.

D. How the Two Projects in Item C Impact/Relate to Goal 1 & 4, Jeff King

Goal 1 – Support industrial and commercial business growth and retention.

The Oak Street Plan is look at expanded allowable uses. These use might could help finance the significant infrastructure costs need to make this site viable for development. The result may reduce the acreage in General industrial zoning but generate the funds by allowing other uses to make commercial and light industrial possible. Due the current high infrastructure and other development costs, the site is essentially locked up.

Goal 4 – Assist in the development of a prosperous downtown.

The festival street enhance the prosperity of the downtown by 1) providing a site for more events to attract people downtown and 2) make the streetscape more attractive generally.

Jeff discussed various ways the commission can help to assist in each of these goals.

As we are still in the early stages of recovery the full data of impact has not been shown.

E. Special Equity Meeting/Forum: Setting Date & format, Kevin Emerick and Jeff King

Jeff discussed with the EDC organizing a panel of Latino or other minority entrepreneurs of small businesses to assist with any barriers they encounter with owning a small business in our community. Kevin mentioned setting a date for this coming fall in hopes we could meet in person. He would also like to have specific talking points to be addressed at the meeting. Councilor Rippe mentioned collaborating with the “Citizens for Community Involvement” to help promote this meeting. Javier Urenda mentioned providing a specific presentation to the Latino community on various topics (i.e. zoning, permitting, land use. etc.)

6. STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS:

The City is in development of creating a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Focus Group.

Council would like two members from the EDC to participate. The commitment is for one meeting for one hour. If interested please email Jeff King.

Jeff updated on the upcoming commercial land-lord rent relief package. He emailed out the specific qualifications for this grant. Business Oregon has more information on this as well.

Jeff mentioned several ongoing and new projects within Forest Grove. Current expansions under way at MGC Pure Chemicals and Old Trapper. A T-Shirt and embroidery company has purchased the old Merix building, The Oregon Roses building has been leased to a

previous Beaverton flooring company. We are still holding at zero Industrial vacancies. Bull Run Cider is opening as well as Biscuitology. A new Indian restaurant will re-open with the existing owner. Popeye's restaurant will be starting construction soon, 190-Unit apartments, Starbucks, and possibly Mod Pizza as well. There is also interest in the development of an urgent care center. The new food cart area is going strong and will be building a wine taps area.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

Chairman Kevin Emerick, announced that the next meeting of the EDC will be on Thursday, April 1st at 10:00 a.m. (virtual).

8. ADJOURNMENT:

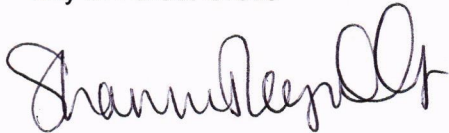
Kevin Emerick adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by:

Shannon Reynolds

Administrative Specialist

City of Forest Grove



Approved by the Forest Grove EDC:

Date: 4/1/2001