

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by EDC Chairman Tim Budelman.

ROLL CALL: EDC MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Bafaro; Tim Budelman; Jill Craig; Steve Krautscheid; Juanita Lint; Tom Raabe; Guy Storms

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED): Kevin Emerick; Rick Lafave; Rob Langford; Jim Langstraat; Mark Nakajima; Jennifer Prickett; Jonathan Yawson

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (UNEXCUSED): None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Bauer; Bret Marchant; Mara Rico; Nick Triska

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilor Timothy Rippe

STAFF PRESENT: Brenna Fulk, Economic Development Manager; Bryan Pohl, Community Development Director; Michelle Davis, Administrative Assistant

a) Welcome Mara Rico of Adelante Mujeres and Mathea Zietz of McMenamin's Grand Lodge

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

3. CONSENT AGENDA:

a) A quorum was met. Tom Raabe moved a motion to approve the EDC Minutes for February 10, 2022. Steve Krautscheid seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

None

5. DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:

a) Regional Economic Development Trends – Greater Portland Inc.- Bret Marchant & Nick Triska – Greater Portland Inc, represents 2 counties in Washington State and 5 counties in Oregon. Their goal is to attract jobs into our region through business recruitment, retention and expansion. The key industries that they target are: Software & IT, Computer & Electronics, Athletic & Outdoors, Metal & Machinery, Clean Technology, Food & Beverage and Biosciences & Technology. The estimations for Forest Grove are: population 26,193; projected growth rate 1.7%; median income \$62,333; 577 businesses with 6184 employees. Unemployment rates for our area are now at pre-Covid levels. The top three areas of Employment by Industry for Forest Grove are: educational, manufacturing and healthcare. The goals & objectives are to foster upward economic mobility, support a competitive economy and build a resilient region. Forest Grove and Economic Development assets for our Region's economy are; relative affordability, business friendly environment, strong local leadership, land,

proximity to Hillsboro, strong institutional presence, a main street area with great potential for additional development and the transition from Urban area to the agricultural area of our region.

6. B/C COMMUNICATIONS:

- a) Chamber Update – Juanita Lint – Membership drive continues through March. The Chamber will be hosting an Open House in Gaston on March 28th at The Hub. The Discover Guide will be released mid-April. The Chamber is seeking grant monies to help with their re-branding. Juanita met with the Fire Chief in regards to the fire work display. The City Club and Chamber are seeking sponsors to help with the cost of the Sesquicentennial Fire work display. Hiring Expo on May 6th, booths are \$250. The Chamber will be presenting at the Hillsboro Hops baseball game on July 6th. Mayor Dalin will throw out the first pitch and a local vocalist will sing the National anthem.
- b) Adelante Mujeres – Mara Rico – Farmer's Market accepting Vendor Applications

7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

- a) Business Incentive Program – The Business Incentive Program has been approved by the Council and will re-new for 1 year.
- b) Resilience Grant Program – Application accepted through March 31st. Up to \$7500 to qualifying small businesses based on tiers and able to show revenue loss. Forms can be found on the City's website or picked up at City Hall.
- c) Small Business Webinars – City of Forest Grove partners with the Cities of Sherwood, Wilsonville and Tigard to provide informative webinars. The last Zoom webinar hosted 85 participants.

8. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

- a) Council Liaison – Councilor Tim Rippe – Community Enhancement Program which is funded by revenue received from Metro was 25K this year. Council voted to use the entire 25k towards a Park and Rec. Scholarship to fund recreational programs. The local levy will be put to vote on the May ballot. Proposing it be raised to \$1.95 (per thousand assed value) This will be the first raise in 10 years. It will help with the demand of more Police/Fire forces to keep up with our city's growth. ODOT and County safety improvements will include: Sidewalks to the North side of Mountain View Lane (Doherty Ford), a crosswalk at the entrance of Rose Grove Mobile Estates, a traffic light at Highway 47/Fernhill/Maple Street and a traffic light at Yew and Adair.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

- a) Chairman Tim Budelman, announced the possibility of an in-person lunch meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2022 from noon-1:30pm at Mcmenamin's Grand Lodge.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Tim Budelman adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted by:
Michelle Davis
Administrative Specialist
City of Forest Grove

Approved by the Forest Grove EDC:

Date: 5/19/2022

