FOREST GROVE OREGON

A place where families and businesses thrive.

Economic Development Commission MEETING
May 12, 2022
McMenamin's Grand Lodge
Alice Inkley Room

Zoom Video Conferencing
Click Link:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82403159290
Password: N/A

For help with Zoom: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004954946

During the pandemic, all public meetings are held in a "hybrid" format allowing the public to attend meetings both virtual and in-person. The Community Auditorium is open and has limited availability and social distancing measures. The public can observe the meetings **LIVE** on **Zoom Webinar** or on television on Tualatin Valley Community Television (TVCTV) Government Access Programming **Channel 23** on their website: http://tvctv.org/?page_id=550. Written comments may be submitted by 9:00 a.m. the day of the meeting by e-mail to: bfulks@forestgrove-or.gov.

Tim Budelman, Chair	**Kevin Emerick**
Steve Krautscheid, Vice-Chair	**Mark Nakajima**
Brad Bafaro	**Juanita Lint**
Tom Raabe	**Jim Langstraat**
Jonathan Yawson	**Guy Storms**
Jill Craig	**Timothy Rippe, Council Liaison**
Mara Rico	**Brenna Fulks, Staff Liaison**
Rick Lafave	**Michelle Davis, Meeting Recorder**
Mathea Zietz	

All regular meetings may be televised live and open to the public and persons are permitted to attend any meeting except as otherwise provided by ORS 192. **Accommodations:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Forest Grove will make reasonable accommodations for participation in the meeting. Request for assistance can be made by contacting City Recorder's Office, aruggles@forestgrove-or.gov, 503-992-3235, at least 48-hours advance notice of the meeting.

AGENDA

12:05 1. **CALL TO ORDER:**
   a. Guest introductions

2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS**: Anyone wishing to speak on an item not on the agenda or on the agenda may be heard at this time. In the interest of time, please limit comments to two minutes.

12:10 3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
   a) Approve Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2022

4. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:**

12:15 5. **DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:**
   a) Introduction to Festival Street– Alex Dupey
   b) Introduction to Project Meriwether – David Shifflet and Nathaniel Brown

1:15 6. **B/C COMMUNICATIONS:**

1:20 7. **STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:**
   a) Proposed Meeting Topics

1:25 8. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:**
   a) Council Liaison – Councilor Tim Rippe

1:35 9. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:**
   a) June 9, 2022

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Thursday April 14, 2022
CITY OF FOREST GROVE – IN PERSON

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by EDC Chairman Tim Budelman.

ROLL CALL: EDC MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Bafaro; Tim Budelman; Jill Craig; Kevin Emerick; Steve Krautscheid; Juanita Lint; Mark Nakajima; Tom Raabe; Mara Rico; Guy Storms; Mathea Zietz

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (EXCUSED): Rick Lafave; Jim Langstraat; Jonathan Yawson

EDC MEMBERS ABSENT (UNEXCUSED): None

OTHERS PRESENT: John Southgate; Councilor Elena Uhing

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilor Timothy Rippe

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

a) In-person introductions; name, company, and why you became a member of the EDC

2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

4. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:**

None

5. **DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:**

a) Revisiting the Economic Development Strategic Plan & Discussing Current Economic Development Trends/Challenges – John Southgate, Southgate Consulting: John helped develop the original EDC Strategic Plan. He states that when people are looking at a new community the top two factors they consider are; schools and grocery stores. His rule of government is “Set the table and get out of the way” and “Never try to outsmart the public sector.” Brenna posed the question “Which goals are short term critical?” In an open discussion the key takeaways were: Main Street appeal/attraction, Oak Street Project, Shovel ready Industrial land. Other key factors included: promote energy into local businesses, tourism, affordable housing and workforce development.

b) Next Steps and future meetings:
Consider using/developing sub-committees to help with this process.

6. B/C COMMUNICATIONS:

Juanita Lint of The Chamber of Commerce presented a slide show presentation of the video WE ARE FOREST GROVE. The video was done by Vandelay Productions, a local company. The video can be found on YouTube, The Chambers website, The City's website and Juanita plans to run some paid social media campaigns. The video won an award at the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce gathering. The Chamber currently has no staff. There are 2 positions available; An Administrative Assistant and a Tourism Coordinator.

7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

a) Project Meriwether:
A sustainable data center by Rowan Digital. With this project, Forest Grove has an opportunity to emerge as a leader within the Silicon Forest. This project will bring 105 direct jobs and 7,700 indirect construction jobs. The current zoning of this property, together with the close proximity to the highway, necessary utilities, and the potential to help the city expand nearby, makes this site perfect for a green data center. Tentative date for a virtual meeting with Rowan Digital is set for May 4th at 6-7pm.

b) Small Business Grants:
$107k was dispersed to 26 Local Businesses. Grants ranged from $2500-$7500, based on numbers of employees. Businesses had to show a loss of revenue or an increase in operating costs to qualify.

c) Washington County Consortium for CDBG Microenterprise Program:
Forest Grove has joined the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) along with Washington County, King City, Tigard and Cornelius. Each City/County will receive 100k.

8. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

a) Council Liaison – Councilor Tim Rippe:
The engineering building has been demolished in preparation for the new DSA Building (Development Services Annex) This will house our Engineering and Building Department and will streamline our permitting and front counter services. The old City Hall building will be getting a remodel. The Quarterly Town meeting will be May 4th at 6:30pm. The Public Arts Commission approved 2 murals located by Pizza Schmizza and Bard Park. They appointed artist Allison McClay. Park and Recreation revised their fee schedule, discussed disbursement of scholarship funds, and what new services can be offered if the levy passes. House Bill 2001 will need to be in place by June 30th. The Forestry Commission participated in Tree City USA Arbor Day, and planted trees in memory of Ron Thompson and Tom Johnson.

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:

a) Chairman Tim Budelman, in-person meeting on May 12, 2022 from noon-1:30pm at Mcmenamin's Grand Lodge.

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