

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

There was a meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and minutes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2008. Please note listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were EDC members: Chairman Scott Carson, Real Estate Appointee; Vice Chairman Peter Robinson, Developer Appointee; Talmage Rogers, Jr., Citrus Industry Appointee (arrived at 3:15 p.m.); Doug Bournique, Local Industry Appointee (arrived at 3:16 p.m.); Keith Kite, Tourist Industry Appointee; Kevin Gould, Manufacturing Appointee; Councilmember Debra Fromang, City of Vero Beach Appointee; Mayor Susan Adams, City of Fellsmere Appointee (arrived at 3:10 p.m.); Don Wright, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce Appointee; Penny Chandler, Indian River Chamber of Commerce (IRCOC); Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, James Kretsch, and Andrew Kennedy, Member-at-Large Appointees; Gwenda Thompson, Workforce Solutions Appointee; Jan Pagano, Civic Organization Appointee; Debbie MacKay, School Board Appointee and Councilmember Andrea Coy, City of Sebastian Appointee.

Absent were EDC members: Deborah Mayfield, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointee; Mayor Thomas Cadden, Town of Indian River Shores Appointee; William Penney, Banking Appointee; Deb Branwell, Town of Orchid Appointee; Victor Hart, Sr., Gifford Community Appointee; Peter O'Bryan, Non-voting Commissioner Liaison; and Helene Caseltine, Alternate, IRCOC (all excused)

Also present were IRC Staff: Sasan Rohani, Long Range Planning Chief; Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner; and Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant, District 4.

Call to Order – EDC Chairman Scott Carson (00:00:06)

EDC Chairman Scott Carson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of EDC Minutes of October 21, 2008 (00:00:12)

ON MOTION BY Mr. Kretsch, SECONDED BY Councilmember Coy, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the October 21, 2008 minutes as presented.

Strengthen the Education Objective of the Economic Development Element Objectives and Policies, Ms. Penny Chandler, President, IRCOC. (00:00:49)

Ms. Penny Chandler, President, IRCOC, handed out and discussed the Martin County Economic Model, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office. She compared the language contained in the Martin County Economic Model to the County's Economic Development Element.

Mayor Susan Adams arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Mr. Rogers arrived at 3:15 p.m.

Mr. Bournique arrived at 3:16 p.m.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the need for an education component to be added to the Economic Development Element and dedicating a hour at the beginning of every EDC meeting to the Economic Development Element Objectives and Policies. Chairman Carson told the committee he would work with staff on developing a plan for the Economic Development Element Objectives and Policies.

Chairman Carson introduced Mayor Susan Adams as the new City of Fellsmere appointee to the EDC.

Mr. Kennedy left at 3:43 p.m.

Adding "Entertainment/Sports and Related Business" to the Target Industry List - Ms. Penny Chandler, President, IRCOC (00:33:27)

Ms. Chandler felt the Target Industry List should include "Entertainment/Sports and Related Businesses". She indicated by adding "Entertainment/Sports and Related Businesses" to the Target Industry List incentives could be offered.

ON MOTION BY Ms. Chandler, SECONDED BY Ms. Thompson, the members voted unanimously (16-0) include “Entertainment/Sports and Related Businesses” to the Indian River County’s Target Industry List.

A discussion followed on the process to add “Entertainment/Sports and Related Businesses” to the Indian River County’s Target Industry List. Ms. Chandler replied she would schedule a meeting with Commissioner Liaison Peter O’Bryan to bring the matter to his attention.

Other Matters (00:44:49)

Chairman Carson announced that New Plant Energy would be making a presentation at the January 20, 2009 Joint Economic Development Council and Economic Development Division Meeting.

Ms. Thompson informed the committee, Workforce Solutions had been notified by the state on an economic development project that would focus on health care and infrastructure employment.

Ms. Chandler indicated the IRCOC Board of Directors voted to send letters to Congress in response to the studies done by the American Small Business Association which demonstrated that government contracts were being given to large or offshore corporations.

Councilmember Coy announced the City of Sebastian City Council would be conducting their first Economic Development Plan meeting on January 7, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.