

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27th St., Vero Beach, Florida. Note: You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and meeting notes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2018.

EDC Members Present

Brian Bauer, CareerSource Research Coast
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Linda Kinchen, City of Sebastian
Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-At-Large
William Penney, Banking Industry
Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large
Chad Olson, Local Tourist Industry
Laura Zorc, School Board of Indian River County
Paul Knapp, Town of Orchid
Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere
Beth Mitchell, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce
John Dyer, Local Industry
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
Tim Borden, Real Estate Appointee
Commissioner Peter D. O'Bryan, District 4, Non-Voting Commission Liaison

EDC Members Absent

Penny Chandler, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College
Bob Auwaerter, Town of Indian River Shores
Val Zudans, City of Vero Beach (COVB)
Jim Funk, Local Manufacturing Industry
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large
Vacant, Local Citrus Industry
Vacant, BCC Appointee

Others Present

Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Eric Menger, Vero Beach Airport Manager
Bruce Redus

IRC Staff

Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner
Sasan Rohani, Chief, Long-Range Planning
Tina Cournoyer, Commissioner Assistant, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Bauer called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and noted there was not yet a quorum in attendance. He asked for roll call, then asked each member to briefly introduce him/herself due to recent changes in membership.

Update from City/Town Managers or Representatives on Current/Future Projects -

City of Vero Beach, presented by Jim O'Connor, City Manager.

Mr. O'Connor discussed the electric sale progression and plans for transition to FPL, airport activities, 14th Avenue redevelopment, parking issues, sewage relief for the lagoon (STEP systems), dune renourishment/beach restoration, road improvement plans, public safety (personal property crimes, panhandlers), emergency management coordination with the County, and community planning & zoning.

Chad Olson arrived at 3:35

Bill Penney arrived at 3:37

Linda Gonzales arrived at 3:37

Laura Zorc arrived at 3:45

Chairman Bauer added that CareerSource can obtain federal emergency funds to pay wages for labor to clean-up after hurricanes. He suggested municipal partners should keep this in mind for the next natural disaster clean-up.

Due to the arrival of four members during the presentation of City of Vero Beach update, the Chairman opted to accomplish the approval of minutes before continuing on with the next city/town update.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of January 16, 2018

ON MOTION BY Mr. Robinson, SECONDED BY Ms. Mitchell, the members voted unanimously (14-0) to approve the minutes of January 16, 2018 meeting.

Town of Orchid--Mr Powers was not present from Town of Orchid. Mr. Knapp offered there was one piece of commercial property currently under transition for possible development in the future.

City of Fellsmere, presented by Mark Mathes, Community Development Director.

Mr. Mathes discussed the new pedestrian overpass and trail, challenge (ropes) course, storm water projects to improve lagoon water quality, train village plans, conservation and recreation land areas, agricultural: shrimp farm, Parabel, yard waste recycling, small businesses struggles with expansion requirements, and community planning & zoning updates.

City of Sebastian, presented by Lisa Frazier, Community Development Director, and Scott Baker, Public Facilities Director.

Ms. Frazier discussed tourism, commercial infrastructure, new business growth, MPO US 1 study, annexation requests, updated parks & recreation open space element/data, lagoon & seawall preservation efforts, pickle ball court & playground plans, road improvements, and stormwater concerns.

Mr. Baker discussed Sebastian Airport, the 13 businesses which rent space there, the Sebastian Golf Course and the golf course restaurant, and expansion plans.

Other EDC matters

Ms. Zorc said arrangements were set for at the March 20, 2018 EDC meeting regarding the Technical Center scheduled to open in August 2018. Also, she would send out sample letters for EDC members to support the grant funding request.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned **at 4:44 p.m.**

Next meeting date: March 20, 2018 at 3:30 p.m.