

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

A meeting was held of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 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 at <http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2019.htm>

EDC Members Present

Chairman Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
Anna Kirkland, Member-At-Large
Amber Batchelor, Sebastian Chamber of Commerce
Bruce Redus, BCC Appointee
Casey Lunceford, Indian River State College (IRSC)
Charles M. Mauti, City of Sebastian
Jim Funk, Local Manufacturing Industry
Joe Idlette III, Gifford Community
John Dyer, Local Industry
Karl Zimmermann, Member-At-Large
Laura Zorc, School Board of Indian River County
Robbie Brackett, City of Vero Beach (COVB)
Sam Carroll, Town of Indian River Shores
Simms Browning, Town of Orchid
Tracey McMorris, CareerSource Research Coast (Alt.)
Todd Howder, Member-At-Large
William Penney, Banking Industry
Peter D. O'Bryan, IRC Commissioner, District 4 (Non-Voting Commission Liaison)

EDC Members Absent

Brian Bauer, CareerSource Research Coast
Chad Olson, Local Tourist Industry
Dori Stone, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Renick, Local Agriculture Industry
Peter Robinson, Local Developer
Ralph Turner, Local Healthcare Administrator
Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere
Tim Borden, Real Estate Appointee

Others Present

Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Jill Hanson
John Corapi, IRC Chamber of Commerce
Laurie Collings, Manpower

IRC Staff

Bill Schutt, Chief, Long Range Planning
Matt Kalap, Long Range Planning
Richard Bruce, Commissioner Assistant, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

(3:31 PM) Vice Chairman Joe Idlett III called the meeting to order. Roll was taken and it was determined there was a quorum present.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

(3:35 PM) Vice Chair opened the floor for nomination of Chairman. Motion made by Mr. Karl Zimmermann to elect Joe Idlette III for Chairman, Second by Jim Funk. Motion passed unanimously. Newly elected Chairman Idlette III opened the floor for nomination of Vice Chairman. Motion made by Karl Zimmermann to elect John Dyer for Vice Chairman, Second by Anna Kirkland. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the EDC Minutes of August 20, 2019 and October 15, 2019

(3:36 PM) After review motion to approve the August 2019 minutes made by Karl Zimmermann, second by Bill Penney. Motion passed unanimously. After review motion to approve October 2019 minutes made by Bill Penney, second by Bruce Redus. Motion Passed unanimously.

Introduction of Business Retention Manager— Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce

(3:37 PM) Ms. Helene Caseltine introduced John Corapi with the Indian River Chamber who will be taking over the Manufacturing Boot Camp and other various programs for the Chamber.

Skills Gap Study 2.0 and Executive Summary — Helene Caseltine, IRC Chamber of Commerce

(3:40 PM) Ms. Helene Caseltine went over the executive summary documents. She stated how focus groups were involved surveys to help recommend programs to be done within the region. Recommendations were presented by a consultant which are under review for various jobs that are and hopeful will be open for youth today and within the future.

Tracey McMorris from CareerSource Research stated how employers are currently looking for skilled employees however are having difficulty finding workers to fill positions. Ms. Caseltine gave examples how manufacturing companies recruit and how it would benefit companies if manufacturing companies visit the schools for future recruitment.

Other Matters —

(3:55 PM) Chairman Idlette introduced the idea of having the Economic Development Council meet Bi-Monthly. The next scheduled meeting will go as planned for March 2020, however afterwards can having the meetings every other month.

Commissioner O'Bryan spoke about the Board of County Commissioners decision on the Brightline Virgin Train. The case was presented to a Federal Judge who ruled against the County. It was appealed to the 4th District Court for Appeals, a three judge panel, which the court ruled against the County. The decision was made to abandon moving forward with the case federally. He also mentioned that a group of citizens want to appeal the decision however the citizens would have to fund the case. In addition, based on the decision from the citizens to move forward the Board of County Commissioner decided to move forward with the private legal representation as the citizens are close to the goal to pay for private counsel.

Commissioner O'Bryan spoke about Affordable Housing and would like to have Bill Schutt present the Affordable Housing presentation to the EDC to show how the two committees intertwine with each other to not only help economic development but also affordable housing for employees.

Amber Batchelor asked questions on the State of Jobs towards youth. Tracey McMorris from CareerSource Research explained that the State of Jobs did occur back in October 2019 and is

open to all schools including charter, private, and homeschool students.

Todd Howder reminded the Council that the Airshow will be April 25-26.

Adjournment

(4:10 PM) There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting date: March 17, 2020, at 3:30 PM.