



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 20, 2023

This meeting was conducted in person and remotely using teleconferencing technology provided by Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mike Chambless called the meeting to order 8:01am

Commissioners: Joelle Gibson, Kristina Hudson, Rob McDonald, Nichole Pas, Paula Shively, and Adrian Webb
Councilmember Rob Wotton was also present.

City Staff: Emily Arteche, Community Development Director; Mike Chambless; City Administrator; Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison; Ashley Wragge, Planning Technician; Andrew Jongekryg, IT Systems Support.

AGENDA APPROVAL: The agenda was approved without objection.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 15, 2023 minutes were approved.

LIAISON REPORTS

None.

SPECIAL ORDERS

1. Introductions

All members introduce themselves to each other to get acquainted. They discussed strength and experiences they bring.

2. Creative districts and Mainstreets

Creative Districts- This discussion comes from the Arts Commission, they are in the information gathering stage of this topic. The organization presented on the use of arts and culture to expand the local creative economy in a geographic area. There are requirements that must be met to obtain the certification. Discussion ensued on grants and funding, what this would look like geographically, and what financial commitments could be to implement and sustain.

Mainstreets- The committee watched a presentation on a national movement that is a similarly complementing organization to Creative Districts. This organization purports value in helping communities with economic resiliency, sense of identity, strong core of civic engagement, and a way to tell local history. Cities are the primary funder of this program. Discussion on tax credit opportunities and what staffing requirements would be necessary prior to application. A letter will be drafted for recommendation of support to pursue.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Council priority tracker

Staff familiarized the committee on the council priority tracker.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ITEMS OF COMMISSIONER INTEREST

None.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

4. Work Program

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 am