



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

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

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Bobbi Harrison called the meeting to order 8:10am

Commissioners: Chair Bobbi Harrison, Rob McDonald, Ryan Seal, Nichole Pas and Larry Mana’o.

Mayor Ross, councilmember Rob Wotton, and Kelly Coughlin, Chamber of Commerce were also present.

Commissioners Joelle Gibson (excused) and Shalabh Chandra were absent.

City Staff: Emily Arteche, Community Development Director; 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: June 21, 2023 and July 19, 2023 minutes were approved.

DISCUSSION

- Community Liaison Update: The Ridge merchant group is going well; the block party was a success and some new ideas will be implemented next year; hearing public support for pool/ splash pad; Halloween events are upcoming.
- Community Development Report: No new major projects, the comp plan is progressing through commissions and committees and the current wireless permit was reviewed by a hearing examiner. A potential business applicant was inquiring about business ideas.
- Chamber Update: Concern over SR18 commutes and the businesses losing workers. Chamber meeting on September 27th at 11:30am at The Club about AI development. Art on the Rails is coming up.
- Mayor’s Report: The hearing about the transfer of the parkway to state jurisdiction is coming up soon. Council will meet with Snoqualmie Tribe soon for continued discussion about the museum. Mayor asked EDC to write letter for funding support and to draft slides for a presentation on EDC accomplishments at council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Economic Development Alliance: King County staff and Councilmember Wotton presented an economic alliance MOU to unite the upper King County cities. This MOU will help with obtaining grants and other funding opportunities.
- EDC Recommendation to the Planning Commission: An additional draft policy about a “anchor point” downtown was added at the request of the Planning Commission.
- Business Visitation Discussion: A goal was created for two business visitations per month. The chair will help with designating which business each commissioner will visit.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 am