

LOUDOUN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2009

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

IDA LEE PARK and RECREATION CENTER

60 Ida Lee Drive, SW Leesburg, VA 20175

I. Call to Order/Determination of Quorum/Adopt Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:12 a.m. Kim Hart made the first motion to approve the May 2009 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

EDC Members Present:

Jim Bennett
John Bischoff
Joe Boling
Susan Buckley
Brian Chavis
Jerry Coughter
Robert DuPree, Jr.
Linda Erbs
Doug Fabboli
Michelle Frank
Alice Frazier
Tag Greason
Katie Hammler
Paula Harper
G. Kim Hart
Ed Hatrick
Rick Hurwitt

Randy Kelley
Shaun Kelley
Kurt Krause
Ted Lewis
Stephen Mackey
Dave Miles
Cheryl Moore
Linda Neri
Joe Paciulli
Mary Porter
Deborah Rochkind
Mark Stavish
Bob Steere
Elaine Walker
Scott York
Ed Zigo

EDC Members Absent or Excused:

Russ Gestl
Bill Gibson
Mark Hassinger
Tamar Datan

James Rohrbaugh
Robin Suomi
John Wood

Staff Present:

Robyn Bailey, Olga Deyneko, Alison Howard, Warren Howell, Donna Hurwitt, Dorri Morin, Buddy Rizer, Larry Rosenstrauch, Patrick Ryan, Tricia Simons and Harry Walsh.

II. Director's Report

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Jerry Coughter presented an update on the Mason/NOVA project announcing the report is complete and has been presented to elected leaders. Next week, public input meetings will occur with a condensed version of the presentation, then questions and input from the public will be accepted. Mr. Coughter announced the plan is to issue the RFI in late June or early July.

Tricia Simons presented “Job Loss, Recessions and the Challenge of Economic Forecasting.” Please see presentation online.

Larry Rosenstrauch announced the sponsorship and recent attendance of the Greater Washington Initiative’s Annual Meeting with Senator Warner.

Bill May of Miller and Smith gave an update on the One Loudoun project being constructed on Route 7. He announced they are hard at work in infrastructure although the project has slowed a bit due to the recession.

Buddy Rizer announced that Digital Realty Trust, Inc. broke ground May 22 on the development for four newly acquired contiguous parcels of land in Ashburn totaling 34.2 acres. They have increased their potential capacity for the campus to over 400,000 square feet. They are going to be building a new 135,000 square foot data center and adding 50 new jobs. Digital Realty Trust, Inc. is making a \$150 million dollar investment, with wages 150% over the average wage which will qualify them for an exemption from sales tax on server and server related equipment.

Rail to Loudoun Update, Jim Bennett

Jim Bennett presented the “Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project”. Please see presentation online.

Charles Yudd presented the “Dulles Rail Station Locations in Loudoun”. Please see presentation online.

Tom Farley, Dulles Rail Coordinator for Loudoun County Government, introduced himself and gave a background on his role regarding the Dulles Rail project.

EDC Mission & Purposes Discussion

Shaun Kelley discussed the review of the EDC’s Mission and Purposes statement. The next step will be for the draft language to be presented to the Board Economic Development Committee, then to come back for a final vote by the Economic Development Commission.

III. Committee Updates and Goals

A. Executive

Shaun Kelley noted that the committee worked on changes to bylaws during its last meeting.

B. Education and Workforce

Paula Harper reported that they will be moving forward with many of the trial projects that have come out of the Loudoun Business Education Collaborative.

C. Marketing and Business Retention

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Kurt Krause thanked the Economic Development staff for all their efforts during the annual VIP event. Mr. Krause discussed the proposed shuttle fees from hotels to the airports. He announced that MWAA listened to complaints and is now considering an annual fee of \$500 (for vehicles with 15 passengers or less) or \$750 if vehicle has 16 passengers or more. He also discussed managing dwelling space at the airport and is considering a fee for more than 10 minutes of dwelling. They are also considering a 50% reduction on fees with the use of environmentally correct vehicles. A delayed start date of January 1, 2010 is being proposed, but entire shuttle fees implementation is yet to be approved by the board.

Northern Virginia Technology Council, for the first time, is having a breakfast event in Loudoun. An anticipated crowd of 500 - 1,000 people are expected to hear Steve Forbes as the keynote speaker. Kurt Krause mentioned the opportunity to advertise in Forbes Magazine with the potential to reach 5.4 million readers to promote Loudoun County.

D. Policy and Implementation

Rick Hurwitt reported that the committee updated the action plan. They also discussed “forms of government”. Rick Hurwitt and Shaun Kelley met with Jerry Gordon at Fairfax’s EDA and are investigating an Economic Development Authority for Loudoun County.

E. Transportation and Infrastructure

Ted Lewis reported that the committee met on May 13 and finalized the broadband survey which is scheduled to be sent out June 15. The committee also worked on tracking the site plan process, the Rail to Loudoun presentation for today’s meeting and the Route 28 Outreach program.

F. Rural Economic Development Council

Doug Fabboli gave a nod to the process of public input in regards to the Wheatland school issue. Mr. Fabboli also discussed the Chrysalis issue effort to put in a 200 seat restaurant.

G. Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce

Tony Howard announced that the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce will host the Annual State of the County on Monday, June 8. Mr. Howard reported that he and a Telos representative went to Capitol Hill earlier this week to meet with senior staff members of Virginia’s two U.S. Senators to discuss the Employee Free Choice Act.

Chair’s Items

Shaun announced the marketing brochure for County Administrator position. Linda Neri added it has been advertised in other publications as well. Approximately 40 applications have been received and the first review date is June 26. The goal is to have a new County Administrator on board by the November or December timeframe.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

VI. Adjournment at 9:51 a.m.