

LOUDOUN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, May 4, 2007

8:00 - 10:00

IDA LEE PARK and RECREATION CENTER

60 Ida Lee Drive, SW

Leesburg, VA 20175

I. CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/ADOPT MINUTES

Chairman Tamar Datan Johnston called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The Commission, having met quorum, adopted the April 2007 minutes as presented.

Attending:

Erin Austin
Nicki Bazaco
Jeff Browning
Brian Chavis
Robert DuPree
Russ Gestl
Katie Hammler
Paula Harper
John Harris
Kim Hart
Ned Waterhouse for Ed Hatrick
Mary Gayle Holden
Rick Hurwitt
Tamar Datan Johnston
Shaun Kelley
Ted Lewis
David McWatters
David Miles
Stevens Miller
Randy Minchew
Arch Moore
Joe Paciulli

Deborah Rochkind
Robin Suomi
Lori Waters
Carol Welti
John Wood

Absent:

Cheryl Beebe
Jim Bennett
John Bischoff
Joe Boling
Clint Good
Randy Kelly
John Lenahan
Bruce Tulloch
Elaine Walker
Scott York

II. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

Tamar Datan Johnston commented on the success of the VIP event held May 3, 2007. Johnston thanked the event sponsors and department staff for all their hard work.

Johnston briefed Commissioners on the Housing Advisory Board's Housing Policies and its recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to initiate a CPAM and asked for the EDC to review and make comment as it will be going to public comment in about two weeks. Department staff have already reviewed and commented. Lori Waters also asked Commissioners to look into proposed changes and requested comments be submitted. Johnston reported that some changes have been made to the EDC 2007 work plan -- several of the proposed monthly programs have been shifted. Johnston announced the June monthly meeting will be held at Rehau, Inc. in Leesburg. Additional information and directions are forthcoming. Lastly, Johnston spoke about the programming and personnel changes at WAGE Radio located in Leesburg. Johnston asked Commissioners if a tribute to commend the station for its community spirit would be appropriate as it has been an important part of community. Overall consensus was that it is an excellent idea.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Larry Rosenstrauch thanked the VIP event sponsors for a successful event. Rosenstrauch's report included:

-June's EDC meeting will meet at Rehau, Inc. located just off of Edwards Ferry Road, Leesburg (behind Shopper's Food Warehouse.)

-Marketing Portfolios are available through the department. Get in touch with department staff if you need one.

-Staff is in the process of filling three vacant positions.

Applications have been received and we are working through the process.

-ZORC recommendations are currently with the Planning Commission as the next stage of the process.

-Signatures of Loudoun Design Awards were announced at the VIP event on May 3, a reception for the winners is being held at George Washington University on May 4 beginning at 4 p.m.

IV. HUMAN CAPITAL: GREATER WASHINGTON'S KNOWLEDGE WORKERS

Greater Washington Initiative
Tim Priest, Executive Director

To view the power point presentation go to loudoun.gov/edc.

V. 2007 EDC SURVEY and CEO CABINET BRIEFING

Commissioners spent several minutes completing the 2007 EDC survey. Results will be tabulated and reported at an upcoming meeting.

John Wood, CEO Cabinet Chair, gave a brief overview of the Cabinet purpose, which is to make Loudoun County one of the top places to live and work. Cabinet recommendations:

- 1) Create a quality of life index,
- 2) Focus on Countywide, as well as regional quality of life initiatives – education, sustainability, congestion.

A) Executive

Chairman Deborah Rochkind reported the Committee was briefed by members of the LCVA on its tourism initiatives. The Policy and Implementation Committee thoroughly reviewed the initiatives and concurred that they are consistent with the Economic Development Strategy. Both the PIC and Executive Committees have endorsed the LCVA Tourism initiatives.

B) Policy and Implementation

Chairman Shaun Kelley reported the Committee spent a great deal of time reviewing tourism initiatives. Cheryl Kilday provided updates to the Committee and the Committee has endorsed LCVA's recommendations and forwarded the recommendations to the Executive Committee.

C) Education and Workforce

Paula Harper reported the Committee received an overview presentation of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) from Robin Suomi at its last meeting. The SBDC recapped ongoing "career continuum" meetings.

D) Marketing and Business Retention

Rich Hurwitt reported the Committee's major focus has been the VIP event. The Committee will begin to focus on identifying venture capital sources and ways to get them more engaged in the County.

E) Transportation and Infrastructure

Chairman Ted Lewis reported the Committee met with George Phillips on revisions to the Countywide Transportation Plan. A tremendous amount of work has been completed, but there is concern that work won't be complete before the current Board has an opportunity to act on it. If all goes according to the current schedule the Board should vote on the plan December 18, 2007. The Committee also discussed its presentation about the transportation bill at an upcoming EDC meeting.

F) Rural Economic Development Council

Nicki Bazaco reported on a huge development for wine industry, VDAC agreed to become a virtual distributor for the wine industry beginning July 4.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Commissioners discussed HHMI's tax exempt status and the possibility of revocation of the status. Facts will be gathered for a letter to be drafted and sent to the Board urging the Board of Supervisors to re-affirm the exemption.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10.