

LOUDOUN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

January 9, 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 8:17 a.m. John Wood made the first motion to approve the December 2008 minutes and Shaun Kelley seconded the motion. The minutes were anonymously approved.

EDC Members Present:

John Bischoff
Joe Boling
Susan Buckley
Jerry Coughter
Robert DuPree, Jr.
Linda Erbs
Doug Fabboli
Alice Frazier
Russ Gestl
Bill Gibson
Tag Greason
Katie Hammler
Paula Harper
G. Kim Hart
Mark Hassinger
Ed Hatrick
Rick Hurwitt

Tamar Datan
Randy Kelley
Shaun Kelley
Kurt Krause
Ted Lewis
Stephen Mackey
Cheryl Moore
Joe Paciulli
Mary Porter
Deborah Rochkind
Betsy Self
Mark Stavish
Bob Steere
Robin Suomi
Elaine Walker
John Wood
Ed Zigo

EDC Members Absent:

Jim Bennett
Kirby Bowers
Michelle Frank

Bill Gibson
Dave Miles
Scott York

EDC Staff Present:

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

II. Action Item: Approve 2009 EDC Leadership

Chair of the EDC Nominating Committee, Deborah Rochkind, reported that the committee met on December 19 and recommends John Wood as EDC Chair and Shaun Kelley as Vice Chair for 2009. Ms. Rochkind made the first motion and Tamar Datan seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

III. Director's Report

Larry Rosenstrauch introduced the Economic Development Department staff to the Economic Development Commission.

Presentation: Loudoun County Economic Development Overview, Larry Rosenstrauch

Larry Rosenstrauch, Director of the Economic Development Department presented "Loudoun County Economic Overview". Please see presentation online.

IV. Committee Updates and Goals

A. Executive

No update provided.

B. Education and Workforce

Paula Harper reported on the third meeting of the Business Education Collaborative that took place in December. She announced that working committees have been established. Ms. Harper reported that an internet portal for future workforce and internship development is moving forward. The next committee meeting will be in February.

C. Marketing and Business Retention

Rick Hurwitt reported that Robyn Bailey presented a commercial real estate presentation at the last committee meeting. He noted some of the positive aspects that Loudoun County has is industrial office space, built-to-suit opportunities and defense contracting. Mr. Hurwitt reported that some of the challenges that the county are facing is sign ordinances and the overall economy. The idea of a loan guarantee was discussed and presented to the Small Business Development Center.

D. Policy and Implementation

Shaun Kelley reported that the committee met the day earlier and discussed their work plan for 2009. The committee had an introductory discussion about the role the EDC has in promoting economic development. The committee also discussed the possibility of producing an annual report.

E. Transportation and Infrastructure

Ted Lewis reported the committee will be working on broadband for businesses in the eastern portion of the County. The committee will also work on the commercial and industrial tax surcharge issue, sign ordinance and energy conservation.

F. Rural Economic Development Council

Doug Fabboli reported that there is a new farmers market in Purcellville on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 pm. Mr. Fabboli also discussed local partnerships of wineries with local businesses.

V. Chair's Items

John Wood announced the following new Economic Development Commission Committee Chairs for 2009:

Policy and Implementation Committee – Rick Hurwitt.
Education and Workforce Committee – Paula Harper
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – Ted Lewis
Marketing and Business Retention Committee - Kurt Krause
Executive Committee – Shaun Kelley

John Wood reported new committee assignments would be announced shortly. Mr. Wood asked that in the future if a commission member has a conflict with an issue before the commission that they should disclose it on the public record. He also announced the pilot ambassador program would launch at the end of January.

Dr. Hatrick briefly reported on the latest school fiscal budget. Supporting documents are online. Dr. Hatrick noted that the budget presented is \$1.3 million less than given this past year. There will be public information sessions in the upcoming weeks.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

Russ Gestl discussed the “Resolution Urging the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors To Amend the Various Sections of the Revised 1993 Loudoun County Zoning Ordinances as they Relate to Sign Regulations” dated January 9, 2009. He summarized the resolution by stating the sign ordinance process is cumbersome and confusing and would like it changed. Tamar Datan made the first motion to approve, with Cheryl Moore seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment 10:09 a.m.