



CITY OF MILPITAS

Economic Development and Trade Commission

MEETING MINUTES

4:30 PM

Monday, November 9, 2020

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- CALL TO ORDER** Meeting called to order at 4:30 pm by Chair Rice.
- PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** Chair Rice led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL** Economic Development Specialist Nicole Inamine called the roll.
- PRESENT:** Chair Lynne Rice; Commissioners Chris Norwood, Casey McNeil, Victor San Vicente, Inderjit Mundra, Alternate Commissioner Dipak Awasthi; Councilmember Karina Dominguez, Associate Civil Engineer Lyhak Eam and consultants Gates and Associates, Stanford University student cohort, Economic Development Director Alex Andrade, Economic Development Coordinator Daniel Degu, Sr., Economic Development Specialist Nicole Inamine, and Special Projects Coordinator Margaret Tamisiea.
- ABSENT:** Alternate Commissioner Juliette Gomez.
- ALTERNATE SEATING** Alternate Commissioner No. 1 Dipak Awasthi was seated in place of the vacant and unfilled Hospitality seat.
- APPROVAL of AGENDA** Motion: To approve the Economic Development & Trade Commission meeting agenda for November 9, 2020.
- Motion/Second: McNeil/Aswathi
- Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 6 and NOES: 0
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Motion: To approve minutes for August 12, 2019; November 18, 2019; February 10, 2020; April 24, 2020; September 14, 2020; and October 9, 2020 (Manufacturing Day)
- Motion/Second: Norwood/San Vicente
- Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 6 and NOES: 0
- PUBLIC FORUM** Resident Urvishkumar Mehta provided public comment concerning the high salaries of tech executives in San Francisco.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Mundra announced an upcoming webinar hosted by the Milpitas Chamber on November 16, 2020, to discuss strategies for local restaurants to survive COVID-19.

Chair Rice gave updates on Great Mall hours during the upcoming Thanksgiving weekend as well as updates on capacity limits and social distancing protocols.

Councilmember Dominguez shared that she is exploring a policy to put a freeze on commercial rent increases.

Economic Development Director Alex Andrade provided updates about Milpitas unemployment rates and developing a paper on the regional hotel economy.

Special Projects Coordinator Margaret Tamisiea provided an update about Manufacturing Day 2020.

Economic Development Specialist Nicole Inamine provided an update about the Milpitas Small Business Spotlight Program.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Election of Officers – Lynne Rice (Chair of Economic Development and Trade Commission)

Chair Rice read the background on the election process, including the roles of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Director Andrade provided further information on the scope and makeup of the EDTC Commission and details on the voting process.

Commissioner Norwood was nominated for the position of Chair by Chair Rice, Commissioners McNeil, Mundra, San Vicente, and Awasthi.

Motion: To elect Commissioner Norwood as Economic Development and Trade Commission Chair.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Awasthi

Motion carried with AYES: 5 and ABSTAIN: 1 (Norwood).

Commissioners Mundra and McNeil were nominated for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Mundra did not accept the nomination, and instead yielded to Commissioner McNeil who accepted the nomination. Commissioner McNeil was elected as Vice Chair; however, the election of Vice Chair was not accompanied with a formal motion. A motion to formally memorialize Commissioner McNeil as Vice Chair will occur on January 11, 2021.

Per tradition, former Chair Rice transitioned her title to the newly elected Chair Norwood effective immediately.

B. Microenterprise Grant Program – Alex Andrade (Director of Economic Development) and Stanford University Student Cohort

Director Andrade and students from Stanford University's Sustainable Cities course presented on their evaluation of the Microenterprise Grant Program.

Commissioner San Vicente asked if evaluation included small family-owned restaurants to which students responded that not many restaurants were included on the list because most restaurants most likely do not fall under the microenterprise requirement of having no more than 5 employees.

Commissioner Mundra asked the students for insights on when everything may get back to “normal.” Stanford student Feona Dong responded that several businesses from this program had their needs met with the grant, and Stanford student Maddy Faul responded as long as businesses don’t entirely have to close again then it will increase their chances of survival. Director Andrade added the recent development in the uptick of COVID cases.

C. Economic Development and Trade Commission Draft Work Plan Fiscal Year 2020-2021 – Alex Andrade (Director of Economic Development) and Daniel Degu, Sr. (Economic Development Coordinator)

Director Andrade presented the draft work plan for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

Motion: To approve the EDTC Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Mundra

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 6 and NOES: 0.

Chair Norwood noted that he would like the work plan to come back to the Commission for further discussion at the next EDTC meeting.

D. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update – Lyhak Eam (Associate Civil Engineer)

Associate Civil Engineer Lyhak Eam and representatives from Gates and Associates gave the Parks and Recreation Master Plan presentation.

Commissioner San Vicente commented that it is important to plan in the context of a COVID-19 reality where parks will be important for people to remain healthy and socialize safely.

Chair Norwood brought up feeder programs that prepare kids for middle and high school sports, such as baseball, basketball, softball, track and field, and considering creating park spaces that further grows these development programs.

Vice Chair McNeil asked about the timeline for implementation; this item will come back spring of 2021 to present a list of recommendations.

Director Andrade added that there could be an opportunity for the City to partner with corporate and private sponsors.

Public comment: Resident Urvishkumar Mehta asked to consider giving the youth more means to represent the City of Milpitas.

E. Third-Party Food Delivery Services Fee Cap – Nicole Inamine (Economic Development Specialist)

Item postponed to next EDTC meeting on January 11, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rice motioned and seconded by Alternate Commissioner Awasthi to adjourn the meeting to the regularly-scheduled commission meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 4:30 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

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