



CITY OF MILPITAS

Economic Development and Trade Commission

MEETING MINUTES

4:30 PM

Monday, November 8, 2021

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CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM by Chair Norwood.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

Chair Norwood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Economic Development Specialist Nicole Inamine called the roll.

PRESENT: Chair Chris Norwood, Vice Chair Casey McNeil, Commissioners Inderjit Mundra, Parkash Daryani; Alternate Commissioner Dipak Awasthi; Councilmember Karina Dominguez; Assistant City Manager Ashwini Kantak, Economic Development Coordinator Daniel Degu, Sr., and Economic Development Specialists Nicole Inamine and Eddie Truong.

ABSENT: Commissioners Lynne Rice, Marshall Jones; Alternate Commissioner Juliette Gomez

Specialist Inamine noted that Director of Economic Development Alex Andrade will not be participating in the November meeting, so Coordinator Degu will act in Director Andrade's stead.

ALTERNATE SEATING

Alternate Commissioner No. 1 Dipak Awasthi was seated in place of the vacant and unfilled Real Estate seat.

APPROVAL of AGENDA

Motion: To approve the Economic Development and Trade Commission meeting agenda for November 8, 2021.

Motion/Second: Awasthi/Daryani

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5, NOES: 0, and ABSENT: 3 (Rice, Jones, and Gomez)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the Economic Development & Trade Commission meeting minutes for October 11, 2021.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Daryani

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5, NOES: 0, and ABSENT: 3 (Rice, Jones, Gomez)

PUBLIC FORUM

No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Mundra provided an update on the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce. Upcoming events include a crab feed in March; virtual job fairs in process; and cultural events in November 2021.

Vice Chair McNeil congratulated Director Andrade and Coordinator Degu on the Mercury News coverage on the City's Innovation District and Fiscal Benefits of Employment Lands Study. Coordinator Degu will send out the article to the membership.

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2021/10/30/in-a-post-pandemic-world-how-will-milpitas-create-a-vibrant-business-district/>

Chair Norwood provided an update pertaining to the Milpitas Unified School District, including an annual drive to raise funds for non-profit organizations supporting food pantries and unhoused individuals.

Councilmember Dominguez thanked the Economic Development and Trade Commission (EDTC) for implementing the City's Economic Development Strategy. Councilmember Dominguez also shared her excitement about 2022, thanked the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce, and noted the impact that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding will have to support the business community.

Coordinator Degu noted that the Fiscal Benefits of Employment Lands Study was presented to the City Council on October 12, 2021. City staff and the project consultant presented findings for Phase 1 and will return to the Council in the second quarter of 2022 to present on Phase 2.

Coordinator Degu added that the COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Program and ARPA Workforce Development were presented at the November 2, 2021, Council meeting. Both programs will return to the Commission in the first quarter of 2022.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Economic Development and Trade Commission Draft Work Plan Fiscal Year 2021-2022 – Daniel Degu, Sr. (Economic Development Coordinator)

Coordinator Degu presented a tentatively approved work plan to the EDTC membership with incorporated comments outlined in red from the previous meeting back in October 2021.

Coordinator Degu added that additional comments on the work plan would be updated as City staff receive further input and comments. Edits were made and highlighted in real time on the screen.

Councilmember Dominguez reminded EDTC that work plan items should be led by City staff, and suggested language in the work plan to underscore this. Commissioner Mundra agreed with the Councilmember's sentiment.

Councilmember Dominguez reminded and encouraged City staff that EDTC can now have a Milpitas high school student as a non-voting member.

Motion: EDTC recommends that the City Council consider and approve the draft Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Economic Development and Trade Commission Work

Plan with the proposed amendments from the October and November 2021 meetings.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Daryani

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5, NOES: 0, and ABSENT: 3 (Rice, Jones, Gomez)

B. International Trade and Commerce Program Update – Nicole Inamine (Economic Development Specialist)

Specialist Inamine presented on the program's background, Phase 1 and upcoming Phase 2.

Chair Norwood suggested that this work program could be its own subcommittee. Vice Chair McNeil, Commissioners Daryani and Awasthi expressed interest in supporting this subcommittee.

Commissioner Daryani proposed having a preliminary discussion to define the scope of work and value proposition of this EDTC subcommittee. Chair Norwood agreed.

Coordinator Degu mentioned that the topic of subcommittee formation would need to be included in a future EDTC meeting to be agendized as part of the overall recommendation.

Motion: Receive staff update.

Motion/Second: Daryani/McNeil

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5, NOES: 0, and ABSENT: 3 (Rice, Jones, Gomez)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Daryani motioned and seconded by Commissioner Awasthi to adjourn the meeting at 5:30pm to the regularly scheduled commission meeting on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 4:30 PM.

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 5, NOES: 0, and ABSENT: 3 (Rice, Jones, Gomez)