



CITY OF MILPITAS

Economic Development and Trade Commission

MEETING MINUTES

4:30 PM

Monday, August 16, 2021

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CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE

Chair Norwood led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Economic Development Specialist Inamine called the roll.

PRESENT: Chair Chris Norwood; Vice Chair Casey McNeil; Commissioners Inderjit Mundra, Parkash Daryani; Marshall Jones; Alternate Commissioners Dipak Awasthi and Juliette Gomez; NOVAworks Director Kris Stadelman, Hummingbird Impact Advisors Principal Karen Routt; Better Block Executive Director Krista Nightengale; Assistant City Manager Ashwini Kantak, Economic Development Director Alex Andrade, Economic Development Coordinator Daniel Degu, Sr., and Economic Development Specialist Nicole Inamine.

ABSENT: Commissioner Lynne Rice

ALTERNATE SEATING

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

Alternate Commissioner No. 2 Juliette Gomez was seated in place of the absent Business Representative seat.

APPROVAL of AGENDA

Motion: To approve the Economic Development and Trade Commission meeting agenda for August 16, 2021.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Daryani

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 and NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the Economic Development & Trade Commission meeting minutes for May 10, 2021.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Awasthi

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 and NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)

PUBLIC FORUM

No public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Mundra shared an update about the new Board members at the Chamber of Commerce.

Chair Norwood provided an update about Milpitas Unified School District starting the new school year.

Councilmember Dominguez congratulated the EDTC for guiding the team and the City through COVID and advocating for the economic revitalization of the City.

Director Andrade welcomed Marshall Jones as the newest member of the Economic Development and Trade Commission. Commissioner Jones proceeded to introduce himself.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. City of Milpitas COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Program

Economic Development Coordinator Degu presented an update on the COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Program, including an overview of Phase 1 and Phase 2 objectives, the Business and Resident Surveys, the Stakeholder Working Group roster, and community outreach efforts.

NOVAworks Director Stadelman presented Phase 1 findings and possible intervention methods, including but not limited to Core Resilience Training (self-assessment, Milpitas labor market research) and Career Navigation (skills training, job search strategies, networking).

Principal Routt presented findings on business interviews and surveys of the business community and residents.

Commissioner Daryani made a statement about employers seeking a qualified workforce and suggested organizing a job fair.

Commissioner Mundra shared results of the Chamber survey of local businesses and people looking for work.

Chair Norwood suggested allocating more time or holding a work session at the next Regular Meeting to allow for a deeper dive on this topic.

Motion: Receive update on Phase 1 findings of the COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Program.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Mundra

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)

B. American Rescue Plan Act Update

Director Andrade suggested that this item be tabled for the September 13, 2021 EDTC meeting. Chair Norwood suggested an earlier start time for the next meeting.

Motion: Move this item to the September 13, 2021 EDTC Regular Meeting.

Motion/Second: McNeil/Daryani

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)

C. Better Block Milpitas 2021

Economic Development Coordinator Degu presented an overview of the Better Block Milpitas initiative, including project timeline, members of the Project Leadership Team, and partners involved in the execution of the project.

Better Block Executive Director Krista Nightengale provided an overview of Better Block's mission, a site plan breakdown, community survey results from early 2020, and shared visuals of past projects.

Councilmember Dominguez asked the EDTC membership to share their input on what they would like to see at the Better Block initiative.

Motion: Receive staff update and select Commissioner Gomez (primary), Commissioner Jones (secondary) and Chair Norwood (tertiary) to serve on the Better Block Milpitas Project Leadership Team.

Motion/Second: Jones/Awasthi

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Mundra motioned and seconded by Commissioner Gomez to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm to the regularly scheduled commission meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 4:30 PM.

Motion carried by a vote of AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 1 (Rice)