

1. Economic Development Commission Agenda

Documents:

[070920 EDC MEETING AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. Economic Development Commission Meeting Packet

Documents:

[070920 EDC MEETING PACKET.PDF](#)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Thursday, July 9, 2020
Council Worksession Room
7:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business
 - A. None
5. New Business
 - A. Jacquell Hajder – Anoka County Regional Economic Development (ACRED)
 - B. Development Update
6. Communications and Reports
 - A. Marketing & Communications
 - Discover Anoka
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - ABLA – No report. July meeting was canceled.
 - B. Sub-committee Updates
7. Miscellaneous
 - A. Discuss August Meeting Agenda.
 - B. Staff Updates
 - C. Open discussion on current economic/business issues/challenges.
8. Adjournment

NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 SOME MEMBERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE USING ZOOM.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Thursday, July 9, 2020
Council Worksession Room
7:00 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business
 - A. None
5. New Business
 - A. Jacquell Hajder – Anoka County Regional Economic Development (ACRED)
 - B. Development Update
6. Communications and Reports
 - A. Marketing & Communications
 - Discover Anoka
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - ABLA – No report. July meeting was canceled.
 - B. Sub-committee Updates
7. Miscellaneous
 - A. Discuss August Meeting Agenda.
 - B. Staff Updates
 - C. Open discussion on current economic/business issues/challenges.
8. Adjournment

NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 SOME MEMBERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE USING ZOOM.

Memo

To: Economic Development Commission
From: Doug Borglund, Community Development Director
Date: July 1, 2020
Re: Thursday, July 9, 2020 Agenda

1. **Call to Order.** This meeting will be held in the Council Worksession Room at 7:00 a.m. at Anoka City Hall.
2. **Roll Call.** Staff will record the names of those present at the meeting.
3. **Approval of June 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes.** Minutes from the June 11, 2020 Meeting. Action Required.
4. **Old Business**
 - A. None
5. **New Business**
 - A. Jacquell Hajder – Anoka County Regional Economic Development (ACRED)
 - B. Development Update
6. **Communications and Reports**
 - A. **Marketing & Communications.** Staff and Commissioners will provide an update on the following.
 - Discover Anoka Update
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - ABLA – No Report. July meeting was canceled.
7. **Miscellaneous.**
 - A. **Discuss August Agenda** – Staff would like to ask if the EDC has any special presentations they would like or information they thought might be useful.
 - B. **Staff Update**
 - C. **Open discussion of current economic/business issues and challenges.**
8. **Adjournment.** Let's plan to adjourn no later than 9:00 a.m.

NOTE: DUE TO COVID-19 SOME MEMBERS MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE USING ZOOM.

CITY OF ANOKA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 11, 2020

Call to Order: Chairperson Finn called the EDC meeting to order at 7:04 a.m. at Anoka City Hall, 2015 First Avenue North in the City of Anoka.

Roll Call: EDC Members present were: Gary Fahnhorst, Mathew Finn, Quinn Garrick, Curt Rekstad, and Joe Riley. EDC members absent were: Allen Acklund, and Jeff Lee. Staff present: Community Development Director Doug Borglund

Oath of Office: Mr. Borglund administered the Oath of Office to new Commissioner Quinn Garrick.

Approval of Minutes: MOTION BY COMMISSIONER FAHNHORST, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RILEY, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2020 EDC MEETING, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS:

Business Survey Questions and Business List: Chairperson Finn provided background information on the business survey and development of questions.

Mr. Borglund stated that staff has been working to update the business list and noted that the questions were developed earlier this spring. He was unsure of the best timing for the survey, referencing the COVID-19 situation. He noted that staff has had contact with many businesses during this time and the changing restrictions. He stated that perhaps it would be better to complete the survey in fall to allow businesses to focus on reopening this summer.

Duffy Boat Update: Mr. Borglund stated that there has not been much activity on this item because of COVID-19 and this may be an activity that does not come to fruition until 2021.

Chairperson Finn stated that perhaps the infrastructure (power) could be put in place this year to allow the activity to be up and running next year.

Commissioner Fahnhorst stated that perhaps staff should follow up and advise them that the City is still very interested.

Mr. Borglund confirmed that he has been in contact with the business through email. He noted that Commissioner Lee has a personal relationship with one of the business owners and perhaps could follow up as well.

Commissioner Fahnhorst stated that perhaps the business could be invited to be a part of one of the City's fall events.

Mr. Borglund stated that could perhaps be an idea where the business could get involved and give rides.

NEW BUSINESS:

COVID-19 Small Business Loan Program: Mr. Borglund stated that staff developed a revolving loan policy/program, at the direction of the Council, and reviewed the parameters that a business would need to meet in order to qualify. He stated that the loan program is setup to fund operating costs (such as rent) that the business is having issues catching up on and provided details on the payback requirements. He stated that the intent is to help small businesses in Anoka that may be struggling due to COVID-19.

Chairperson Finn asked if the funds could be used to enhance the exterior of buildings.

Mr. Borglund replied that there is a separate program available through the HRA for that purpose. He confirmed that the interest rate for the small business loan program would be set at five percent to treat everyone equally and would not be based off credit.

Temporary COVID-19 Outdoor Seating Program: Mr. Borglund stated that the Governor's Executive Order allowed restaurants to open with outdoor seating as of June 1st. He noted that staff gathered the businesses that serve food/alcohol prior to that date to have a discussion and determine how the City could assist in providing outdoor seating areas. He stated that a permitting process was developed, and the City gathered picnic tables and jersey barriers that it owned to be used for the purpose of creating seating areas. He noted that the seating areas were allowed into the street, with the most participating businesses located downtown. He stated that some businesses chose not to open because of the additional resources and insurance requirements. He reported that 12 businesses took advantage. He stated that the businesses were allowed to open indoors at 50 percent capacity the previous day, along with the expanded outdoor seating. He stated that most of the businesses have asked to retain the outdoor seating through the summer as it will help to recapture some of the lost revenue during the closures.

Commissioner Rekstad asked if this could lead to additional restaurants wanting the bump out seating that 201 has.

Mr. Borglund stated that all the downtown businesses have the ability to request and have the bump out patio, similar to 201. He noted that the temporary outdoor seating is a chance for businesses to determine if the investment in a bump out seating area would be a benefit for their business in the future. He noted that a review would be done by the City Council on Monday night. He confirmed that the Commission supports allowing this seating to continue as long as possible this season. He stated that the City worked quickly and cooperatively with the food and beverage businesses to help them open as soon as they could.

Chairperson Finn stated that perhaps staff can follow up with other downtown business owners to help them open as well, using the example of allowing a business to place a rack of clothes on the sidewalk.

Mr. Borglund replied that Discover Anoka is still planning its annual sidewalk sale in July.

Summer Event Changes Due to COVID-19 Update: Mr. Borglund provided an update on event changes for summer events due to COVID-19.

COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS:

Marketing and Communications Updates:

- Discover Anoka: The group has been working diligently to promote the local businesses and allow those businesses to reopen.
- Chamber of Commerce: No additional comments.
- ABLA: The group has discussed events and delayed events, along with receiving updates.

Mr. Borglund provided an update on communication staff had with local businesses throughout the COVID-19 situation.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Discuss July's Meeting Agenda: Mr. Borglund stated that he can provide a full development update at the July meeting.

Chairperson Finn suggested that the bus tour be added to the July agenda.

Commissioner Rekstad advised that WCCO recently highlighted the downtown Anoka area in one of its program segments.

Staff Update: Mr. Borglund provided a brief update on recent development activities within Anoka.

Open Discussion on Current Economic/Business Issues/Challenges: Mr. Borglund
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned upon a motion by Commissioner Fahnhorst, a second by Commissioner Riley, and a unanimous vote of those present at 8:11 a.m.

Amanda Staple, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*