

Minutes
City of Brookings
Economic Development Committee (EDC)
Council Chambers 898 Elk Drive July 8, 2004 7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Zia at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings.

II. Roll Call/Introductions

Members in attendance: Chair John Zia, Vice Chair Dave Gordon, Rick Bishop, Elizabeth Smith, David Freeman, Frances Johns Kern, Toni Mefford, Jeremy McVeety, Don Mitchell, Jay Patel. Peggy Goergen was not present at roll call but arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Absent were: Secretary Chris McKay, Dorothy Garvin, Shelly Easton

Also attending were: Port of Brookings Harbor Executive Director Russ Crabtree; Nita Rolfe; Craig Mickelson; Warner Buehler, Coos Curry Electric; City of Brookings Economic and Urban Development Director Ed Wait; Assistant Planner Dianne Snow; Administrative Secretary Linda Barker

III. Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes

1. Minutes of June 10, 2004

By unanimous oral vote the committee approved the minutes from the June 10, 2004, meeting.

At this time, Chair Zia called for addition of items to the agenda. There were none.

IV. Unscheduled Public Appearances

None

V. Staff Reports/Updates/Information

1. Report on Downtown Development Committee accomplishments-Ed Wait

Wait recapped the scope of work accomplished by the Downtown Development Committee which included the new downtown municipal parking lot; trash receptacles and forward planning on the downtown business district zone. The committee also worked on implementing and oversight for the Urban Renewal District which is now in place and is beginning to generate revenue to implement the Urban Renewal Plan. Wait recommended appointing a sub-committee of the EDC to focus on downtown issues.

2. Planning update-Dianne Snow

Snow reported there will be a special meeting of the Planning Commission, July 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to consider the Borax Master Plan. She highlighted items in the master plan and answered questions from the committee.

VI. Old Business

1. Top Economic Concerns

Each committee member told their top economic concern. There were as follows:

Smith: Make a better community out of what we have

Mitchell: Burning of brush and smoke, lack of composting facility

Bishop: Downtown development

McVeety: Annexation or incorporation of area south of Chetco Bridge

Johns Kern: Downtown development

Snow: Downtown development

Wait: focusing on specific project, perhaps new welcome signs

Goergen: SWOCC campus which will help improve skills of local workers

Patel: Lack of workforce training, housing; downtown development; healthcare

Freeman: Bicycle paths; making area pedestrian friendly; swimming pool

Mefford: Attracting a variety of business here

Gordon: Downtown development; city funding of recreational facilities used by non-residents

Zia: Public-use facilities

Other items discussed included downtown parking and signage, accessibility for people with disabilities, affordable housing, fee schedules for city parks and fields, and Chetco River dredging.

VII. New Business

A new downtown development subcommittee was appointed. Those volunteering and appointed to the committee were: Bishop, Gordon, Johns Kern, Mefford, Patel and Smith. Snow and Wait will work with the committee. Mefford will contact Wait to set meeting date and time.

1. Port of Brookings-Harbor presentation-Russ Crabtree

Crabtree gave a PowerPoint presentation on port activities, saying since 1989 the port has become the most aggressive local economic development agency on the south coast. The 400 square mile port district is the 4th largest port in economic development in the state. A master plan was developed in 1989 which continues to be implemented. Of the 23 ports in Oregon, Brookings is looked at as a model port. Crabtree sees the biggest issue for the port as dredging of the river's mouth. Through port lobbying \$518,000 of funding is in the current federal budget for this dredging. Many other small ports in Oregon are getting zero federal dollars.

2. Addition of items to agenda if needed

This item was announced earlier in the agenda. There were no items to add.

VIII. General Discussion/Committee Comments

None

IX. Work Items for next or future meetings

It was decided a presentation will be planned of each meeting. McVeety will contact the regional economist for Oregon Department of Employment for a presentation in August. Gordon will work with the Parks and Recreation Commission for a future presentation. Presentations will be approximately 15 to 20 minutes each.

X. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be August 12, 2004.

XI. Summary of action items

XII. Adjournment

With no further business before it, the committee adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Zia
Chair