

# Minutes

City of Brookings

Economic Development Committee (EDC)

Council Chambers 898 Elk Drive June 10, 2004 7:00 p.m.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Economic Development Director Ed Wait at 7:00 p.m. The order of the agenda was changed and Leroy Blodgett introduced the city's perspective on the goals of the committee. This committee was suggested by Dave Gordon at the Council's goal setting session and the Council adopted its formation as a goal for Fiscal Year 2004-2005. Blodgett said there had been past efforts with economic development committees by various agencies and groups but he thought this is the first attempt to have a broad based committee that includes representatives from the Port of Brookings Harbor, Chamber of Commerce, Curry County, City of Brookings, SWOCC, School District 17C, businesses and lay citizens from both within the city and the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The City will staff the meetings with Wait, Assistant Planner Dianne Snow and Administrative Secretary Linda Barker. City staff members are not on the committee nor voting members.

## II. INTRODUCTIONS

Each committee member in attendance introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their background and economic concerns for the community. They are:

Don Mitchell, business representative/UGB  
Elizabeth Smith, at large representative/UGB  
Shelly Eaton, Curry County Commissioners representative  
Rick Bishop, business representative/within city  
Dorothy Garvin, at large representative/UGB  
John Zia, Port of Brookings Harbor representative  
Frances Kern, City Council representative  
Toni Mefford, at large representative/UGB  
Dave Gordon, Chamber of Commerce representative  
Dr. Jay Patel, business representative/within city  
Jeremy McVeety, at large representative/within city  
Chris McKay, School District 17C representative  
Dave Freeman, business representative/UGB

Peggy Goergen, SWOCC, is also on the committee but was not present at the meeting.

Wait introduced others in attendance: Brian Bullock, Curry Coastal Pilot; Russ Crabtree, Executive Director of the Port of Brookings Harbor; Craig Mickelson, City Councilor; Vikki Nuss, Coastal Copiers; and Don Nuss, Coastal Copiers and Azalea News.

### **III. COMMITTEE PERSPECTIVE – Leroy Blodgett**

Blodgett gave the city's perspective earlier in the agenda; see above. Other discussion items were:

A time limit was set for the meetings. Gordon moved, Mefford seconded and the committee, by unanimous voice vote, set 90 minutes as the meeting length. The quorum was established as 8 members.

There was discussion on what happens with projects approved by the committee. Wait said that would depend on the project. Some would be recommendations to various boards; others could be handled by the committee.

Discussion continued on whether members of the public would be addressing the committee. The committee agreed to place an item on each monthly agenda for unscheduled public appearances. Items presented to the committee by the public would be for consideration only and may be revisited in future meetings. No time limit was put on public appearances but one may be set at a later meeting. Outside resources may be invited for presentations.

Discussion then turned to term of office. Wait said there are no specific terms set for committee members although terms of representatives appointed by organizations may be set by the appointing organization.

### **IV. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Chair**
- B. Vice-chair**
- C. Secretary**

Nominations were opened for Chair. Gordon nominated Zia with Mitchell seconding the nomination. Zia said he was willing to serve as Chair. Mitchell moved the nominations be closed. This was seconded by Gordon. By unanimous voice vote the nominations were closed. By unanimous vote Zia was elected as Chair.

Wait turned the meeting over to Chair Zia.

Mefford nominated Gordon for the position of Vice Chair. This was seconded by Kern. Gordon said he was willing to serve as Vice Chair. Mefford and McKay each said they were willing to serve as Secretary. By unanimous voice vote Gordon was elected as Vice Chair. By a written ballot, McKay was elected secretary.

Chair Zia suggested the following loose structure for all meetings:

- Call to Order
- Introductions
- Review and approval of previous meeting's minutes
- Addition of items to agenda if needed
- Unscheduled Public Appearances

Staff Reports/Updates/Information  
Old Business  
New Business  
General Discussion/Committee Comments  
Work Items for next or future meetings  
Next Meeting Date  
Summary of action items  
Adjournment

Members were instructed to contact Wait to place items on the agenda. Wait will keep Chair Zia informed.

Chair Zia then started through a sample agenda:

**Unscheduled Public Appearances:**

Vikki Nuss addressed the committee regarding the economic impacts from the DEQ-detected contamination of Mill Creek and Harris Creek. Blodgett detailed city monitoring to find the extent and source of contamination. The committee agreed that this could have major economic impacts to the community.

Crabtree said he will give an approximately 20 minute presentation on Port projects at the next meeting.

**Staff reports/Updates/Information:**

Snow said she was excited to be on staff for this committee as typically planning and economic development have not had a strong link. In 2003, legislation was passed requiring LCDC to create an economic development team to assist local jurisdictions. She will introduce planning guidelines that may impact committee projects.

Wait said he has worked for the city approximately 8 months, coming from the state. He feels the committee can have a major impact on decision making that will take place throughout the area. He feels the hospital is the most interesting project the city is working on.

Blodgett agreed the hospital is a very important project as is keeping ahead of water needs with the ongoing development in the area. At this time there are 200 lots in some phase of development with another 200 coming on line in midsummer. Staff is reviewing Borax's Masterplan which has approximately 900 residential lots and SWOCC's campus. One of the Council goals this year is looking into replacing city hall, partly because of the crowded conditions and the age and condition of the current building. Staff will be presenting a preliminary design for a building utilizing the current city hall site to the Council within the next few weeks.

In committee discussion, affordable housing, swimming pool, and family wage jobs were mentioned by several committee members. Bishop asked for a review

of the downtown development committee accomplishments. Wait will provide this at the next meeting.

Zia suggested that committee members bring their top economic concerns to the next meeting.

**V. SUB-COMMITTEE DEVELOPOMENT AND ASSIGNMENT**

None

**VI. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOW UPS**

**A. Economic and Urban Development Director**

**B. Assistant City Planner**

**C. Other**

This item was previously handled. See above.

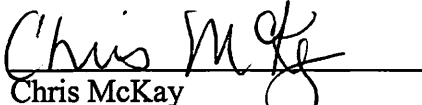
**VII. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

This item was previously handled. See above.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before it, the committee adjourned the meeting at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Chris McKay  
Secretary