

Minutes

Economic Development Commission

February 27, 2023

A meeting of the Walkersville Economic development Commission was at 7:00PM February 27th, 2023 in the Town Hall Conference room. In attendance were Linda Morgan, Ryan Csjako, Bob McNally, Lamar Estridge, and Sue Hauver – Planning Director represented the Town.

Introduce Lamar Estridge: Mr Estridge introduced himself to the Commission, He was appointed to the Commission by the Burgess and Commissioners at their January 26th, 2023 meeting.

Approve 01-23-23 Meeting minutes; Motion by Ryan Csjako, 2nd by Bob McNally; All in favor, motion passed 4-0

EDC meetings with businesses

- Follow up on Tomarcio meeting – Linda reached out Jodie Bolinger with the Frederick County Office of Economic Development. She provided a basic outline of their process and questions that they start the conversation with. She also offered to join our visits to provide any information the business may ask regarding County OED assistance or opportunities.
- List of registered businesses – Sue Hauver will get a list of businesses to the Commission by 03-03-23. The Commissioners will, by 03-07-23, provide available days and time for setting up meetings.
- Determine 3 businesses to meet with in March 2023 – The Commissioners will make these choices by email, copying the EDC email for recordation.

Ribbon Cuttings

- J&B Real Estate – U&O issued, owner has indicated any Saturday in March would work.
- Mercy Seat Medical – They are still waiting on their U&O

Greenfest – Boonsboro Md event: This is an event put on by the Town of Boonsboro. This is an opportunity for the EDC to experience a town run event and ask questions ahead of our own event in 2024.

Economic Development Commission and Planning Commission interaction – Discussion included setting up a Work Session with the Planning Commission to introduce our selves and establish communication between the two groups.

Update on FoodPro – Food Pro is now the owner of record of the former 106 acre Bower Farm at the corner of Biggs For Rd and Fountain Rock Rd. A letter from their attorney to the town has been received in regards to the planning process and requesting the whole farm be put into 'Light Industrial' as the ~40 acre adjacent parcel along Fountain Rock Rd is zoned. A formal Annexation request has not yet been received. Sue Hauver provided the packet from the 01-26-23 Work session with the Planning Commission and the Council for the EDC to review. The town is seeking new Counsel as the towns attorney has a conflict of interest in the Food Pro project.

Public Comment:

- Several questions from the ~10 people in attendance. All related to the Food Pro project.
- Mike McNeish introduced himself. He ran for and won the special election seat replacing his previous seat. He also shared with the EDC a photograph and letter from the Walkersville Boosters thanking us for the ARPA funding.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM