

Minutes  
Economic Development Commission Meeting  
May 15, 2023

The meeting of the Economic Development Commission was called to order on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7pm. In attendance were members Lamar Estridge, Vice Chair Bob McNally, Chair Linda Morgan, Kelly Renehan, Burgess Weddle, Commissioner Mary Ann Brodie-Ennis, Communications Specialist Ashley Bailey. No citizens. Secretary Leanne Tennant and member Ryan Csajko were not present.

*Motion to approve March minutes made by member McNally, seconded by member Estridge. Passed 4-0*

- 1) Discussion about electing new officers. Since two members absent, decided to table until next meeting. Chair Morgan briefly explained roles of officers-Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary.
- 2) Discussed changing date of June meeting as falls on Juneteenth. Agreed that Ashley would communicate with group and decide on date changes.
- 3) EDC business meeting scheduling issues. Businesses want to meet during business hours. This wasn't conducive to members schedules. Discussed having a networking opportunity during EDC meeting time, for businesses to come and meet each other, and the commission. Invite 6 businesses at a time, so each member could sit down one on one during the networking event, and answer questions, provide ways Commission can help. Also recommended partnering with/hosting WBPA meeting. Considering August for first meeting, but discussed conflicting with school start schedule. All members were on board with the idea of having networking event. Chair Morgan will reach out to WBPA
- 4) Discussed ribbon cutting at J&B Real Estate. Commission and Town representation was great. Good turnout. Good food. Spectacular ribbon.
- 5) Pending ribbon cutting at Mercy Seat Medical. Ashley is in contact with owner.
- 6) Discussion of additional incoming businesses on Maple Ave and photography studio on Frederick St. and possible ribbon cutting at Ashley Marie photography.

Commissioner Concerns:

Chair Morgan brought up Planning Commission denial for FoodPro for rezoning. Confirmed this wasn't for annexation. Foodpro could still try to go through county. Burgess Weddle explained this procedure using Rotorex as an example.

Chair Morgan advised that there are talks of a couple of potential businesses looking at the Century Center Property.

Commissioner Brodie-Ennis appreciates that the commission exists and the work that they are doing and thought the ribbon cuttings were terrific. She feels Commission is building relations with businesses and that can only help us.

Chair Morgan talked about the Rosie Cheeks anniversary.

Revisited June Meeting date change. Possibly June 12.

Burgess Weddle advised that he hoped to have true Commissioner Liaison at next meeting. Also said that he is available Wednesdays for business visits.

Briefly mentioned possible business lunches.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm

Ashley Bailey, Communications Specialist