

MEETING MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
OCTOBER 19, 2022  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
VIEWPOINT ROOM  
31555 W ELEVEN MILE ROAD  
FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN

**CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN T.R. CARR AT 8:02 A.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** T.R. CARR, LEWIS CANTOR, MARK BRUCKI, SUSAN ARLIN, EUNICE JEFFRIES, MARK ZACHOS, FRITZ BEIERMEISTER

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Ken Massey, Council Liaison, Gary Mekjian, City Manager, Joe Valentine, Assistant City Manager, Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, Diane Bauman and Jennifer Kaminski, Farmington Public Schools

**EXCUSED:** SCOTT ELLIOTT, SAM SLAUGHTER

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Mark Brucki, supported by Fritz Beiermeister to approve the agenda as submitted.  
Unanimously carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mark Brucki, supported by Fritz Beiermeister to approve the minutes of September 21, 2022 as submitted.  
Unanimously carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None.

**REPORT/UPDATES FROM**

1. City Management
  - a. Joe Valentine, Assistant City Manager updated the Corporation on the Smart Cities initiative within Farmington Hills. SiFi Networks, contractor for the initiative, will begin construction after a planned utility pipeline to stretch fiberoptic cables. Technology benefits to come are smart street lighting to save energy, provide Wifi capabilities, improve server areas, and public safety assistance.
  
2. Council Liaison
  - a. Dr. Ken Massey reminded the Corporation of the Master Plan community input session on October 20.

**GOVERNANCE MODELS, MANAGEMENT, AND PARTNERSHIPS, AND REPORT BACK TO THE EDC AT THE NEXT MEETING.**

Motion by Lew Cantor, supported by T.R. Carr to move item for approval.

Unanimously carried.

**BUSINESS**

1. Innovation Center
  - a. Chairman Carr, discussed the 501 c3 questionnaire, given by the EDC attorney, to help the Subcommittee visualize a structure a for the Innovation Center. Mr. Valentine discussed the \$750,000 grant for the City was approved and now in process by the State of Michigan.
  - b. Lew Cantor, Vice Chair, expressed his concern for an opening date on the Innovation Center. Early February has been set as the goal timeframe.
  - c. Mark Brucki discussed the paperwork process to establish the 501c3.
  - d. Mr. Valentine presented a working document for the Corporation to show where the Innovation Center is in the pipeline including details on potential partners, needs to address on the third floor of the Hawk, and initial equipment.
  - e. Eunice Jeffries made note that the Incubator should have a diversity and equity lens to reflect the mosaic of Farmington Hills.
2. Grand River Corridor
  - a. Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, gave a report on the Grand River Corridor update and how the Economic Development Corporation could devote energy to specific corridor areas. She mentioned the opportunity to engage the Grand River Overlay District for interested developers pursuing the area.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mark Brucki and Fritz Beiermeister requested a report and/or regular conversation to the Corporation on Economic Development updates throughout the City.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Lew Cantor at 9:04 a.m.

*Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director*