

**MEETING MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 – 8:00AM  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS– COMMUNITY ROOM  
31555 ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS MI  
(248)871-2506**

**CALLED TO ORDER BY:** Chair John Anhut at 8:12am

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anhut, Elliott, Gatewood and Hartsock

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jacknow, Johnson, Sarafa (2 vacancies)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mayor Barry Brickner, City Clerk Pam Smith, Khalfani Stephens, Economic Development Coordinator and Lydia Macklin-Camel, City Management Intern

#	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION SUMMARY/PERTINENT INFO	FORMAL MOTIONS:
3	<b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>  SEPTEMBER 16, 2015		<b>MOTION BY:</b> HARTSOCK <b>SUPPORT BY:</b> ELLIOTT  TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 AS PUBLISHED.  <b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> UNANIMOUSLY
4	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>  MAY 20, 2015		<b>MOTION BY:</b> ELLIOTT <b>SUPPORT BY:</b> HARTSOCK  TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.  <b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> UNANIMOUSLY
5	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>  <b>CHAIRMAN’S REPORT</b>	Chairman Anhut reported on the following developments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 Mile/Northwestern proposed development of several new hotels</li> <li>• Google moving in to Farmington Hills and creating new jobs</li> <li>• Botsford/Beaumont expansion</li> <li>• Expansion of Gentherm</li> </ul> He mentioned that there were comments made about it being difficult to obtain the necessary permits.  Mr. Anhut mentioned the reappointment of Mr. Sarafa and Mr. Hartsock and mentioned that there are still 2 vacancies – one being due to the retirement of City Manager Steve Brock.	

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		<p>He stated that they are in need of someone to serve as secretary for the group. City Clerk Smith was helping out for this meeting.</p> <p>Mayor Brickner updated the group on the process for hiring of the new City Manager. He stated that interviews will be conducted the weekend of October 16-18, 2015.</p>	
6	<p><b>AGENDA ITEM:</b></p> <p>NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS</p>	<p><b>UPDATE ON THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY ENERGY PRIZE:</b></p> <p>Lydia Macklin-Camel, City Management Intern, updated the group on the status of the Georgetown University Energy Prize. She explained that the goal is to reduce energy usage and sustain that over a 2-year period with actions to be scalable and replicable and use of an innovative approach.</p> <p>She noted that going into the end of the third quarter – the semi-finals, Farmington Hills is currently in the top 5. She stated that the City must be in the top 10 by January, 2017 to move forward in the competition.</p> <p>Ms. Macklin-Camel discussed the following elements of the program: Scoreboard, sponsors, Bill Buster marketing campaign, community presence including future events , STEM program, Bright Ideas Program through Bright House and faith and employer outreach.</p> <p>Member Gatewood feels that the STEM program is a great element and a hot topic right now with parents and schools. She would like to see this program grow.</p> <p>Mr. Anhut asked Mr. Hartsock to mention this program at the next Botsford Board meeting.</p> <p>Member Gatewood suggested using homeowners' associations Facebook pages to also spread the word on this program.</p> <p>Chair Anhut stated that he started a contest within his own Association where the Association was offering a \$200 incentive.</p>	

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		<p>Clerk Smith stated that her office has contacts for the Homeowners' Associations if needed.</p> <p>Mr. Stephens commented on the benefits of having a home energy audit conducted.</p> <p>Chair Anhut thanked Lydia for her report.</p>	
7	<p><b>AGENDA ITEM:</b></p> <p>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</p>	<p>Mr. Stephens reported on a couple of grants the City has received in order to conduct a Brownfield study on some property, including the Sarah Fisher property. She noted that there were a couple of interested company's in this site.</p> <p>Mr. Elliott commented that there are some environmental issues on the site and demolition costs are high. There is also the historic building to take into consideration.</p> <p>Mr. Stephens commented that the City is supportive of development on this site.</p> <p>Mr. Stephens reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions with a developer regarding a new senior development in the city.</li> <li>• SEMCOG regional economic development strategy that identified various industries that would be growth clusters in SE Michigan.</li> <li>• Light on the Grand program – marketing through the Corridor Improvement Authority.</li> <li>• Scheduled meetings with Nissan, Bosch and Akebono</li> <li>• Working with smaller companies who are trying to acquire property for possible expansion</li> </ul> <p>Discussion was held on the Toronto Dominion Building. Mr. Elliott stated that it was sold to Farbman but Dominion is still leasing the space. He believes they have a 10-year lease.</p> <p>Discussion was held on traffic in the area. Mr. Elliott stated that a light is needed as traffic is often backed up from Orchard Lake Road to Harrison.</p> <p>Mr. Stephens stated that there are grants available that the City could pursue for roadwork if the work would result in new business coming to the area. He stated that he would talk to Engineering on this issue.</p>	

#	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION SUMMARY/PERTINENT INFO	FORMAL MOTIONS:
		<p>Mayor Brickner stated that the ribbon cutting for the opening of the 14 Mile/Orchard Lake Road round-a-bout is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2015</p>	
8	<p><b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>  TREASURER'S REPORT – AUGUST, 2015</p>	<p>Chair Anhut noted that the EDC funding is out and there is no funding for member stipends at this time.</p> <p>He encouraged members to notify him of any fundraising ideas.</p>	<p><b>MOTION BY:</b> HARTSOCK <b>SUPPORT BY:</b> ELLIOTT</p> <p>TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT DATED AUGUST, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> UNANIMOUSLY</p>
9	<p><b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>  BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS</p>	<p>Chair Anhut stated that it was suggested that EDC hold 6 meetings per year. He suggested holding the meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 8am as normal in September, October, December, February, April and June.</p> <p>Mr. Elliott mentioned that some good sized tenants are looking at the arboretum buildings that are available. He also commented on the permitting process and that the process is too long in all communities.</p> <p>Mr. Stephens stated that if the members know of clients trying to go through that process to have them contact him and he would assist in any way he could. He stated there is a backlog at times, but sometimes the issue is with regard to communication issue between the developer and contractor as well.</p> <p>Mrs. Gatewood suggested that the city provide for full disclosure and provide a management timeline for projects. Mr. Elliott agreed.</p> <p>Discussion was held on increasing business for Farmington Hills and the importance of marketing local businesses. Mr. Stephens was working on a marketing package for Farmington Hills.</p> <p>Chair Anhut inquired if the City takes a second look at local bids.</p> <p>Mayor Brickner noted that the bidding process in place is to award projects to the lowest, qualified bidder.</p>	<p><b>MOTION BY:</b> HARTSOCK <b>SUPPORT BY:</b> ELLIOTT</p> <p>TO APPROVE THE MEETING DATES AS NOTED BY THE CHAIR.</p> <p><b>MOTION CARRIED:</b> UNANIMOUSLY</p>

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10	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>  PUBLIC COMMENTS	There were no public comments.	
11	<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>		Chair Anhut adjourned the meeting at 9:28am
	<b>MINUTES PREPARED BY</b>	<b>Pam Smith, City Clerk</b>	