

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

CALLED TO ORDER BY Chairman Cantor at 8:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cantor, Carr, Beiermeister, Brucki, Elliott

ALSO PRESENT: Joseph Valentine, Assistant City Manager, Ken Massey, City Council Liaison, Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director, Susan Arlin, Director of the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce, Eunice Jefferies

EXCUSED: Zachos, Hartsock, Slaughter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Carr, supported by Elliott, to approve the agenda as submitted.
Unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Beiermeister, supported by Elliott to approve the minutes of December 15, 2021 as submitted.
Unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

1. Carr reported that the consultant will be at the Goal Setting Session.
 - a. Expressed that the motive of the Goal Setting Session is to get the council's "nod" to move forward in potentially building one lab at the Hawk for the Innovation Center. In the future, the idea would then be presented again at a Council Study Session to discuss further details.
 - b. Chairman Cantor commented that perhaps the Corporation could take the discussion of the Innovation Center at a March Council Study Session.
2. Carr also mentioned that there will be a short biotech tour of the Innovation space on January 19, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. This tour was initiated by Mark Brucki.
3. Ken Massey, Council Liaison, shared why the Innovation Center is on the Goal Setting Session and that is in which to show the future potential financial investments for the city.

REPORT/UPDATES FROM:

1. City management
2. Council Liaison

- a. Ken Massey, Council Liaison, pointed out that some members may be up for reappointment if they would like to continue their participation on the board.
- b. Ken Massey, Council Liaison, also introduced Susan Arlin, Director of the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce.

BUSINESS:

- 1. Old Business
 - a. Business Innovation Center Update (Jan 22 Council prep, etc.)
 - 1. Financials for Innovation Center
 - a. No comments made on financials.
- 2. New Business
 - a. Chairman Cantor mentioned the ARPA funds that may become available by September of 2022. These funds could be looked at for the use of the Innovation Center.
 - i. Brucki made mention that our contact for ARPA should communicate frequently to help make a positive financial impact on the Innovation Center once funding becomes available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Beiermeister asked for a report on the 12 Mile developments.
 - i. Economic Development Director, Brockway, gave an update on development projects along 12 Mile Road (west).
 - ii. Scott briefly gave an update on the change of historical designation with the Sarah Fisher project.
- b. Assistant City Manager, Valentine, briefly mentioned that some new visions for development opportunities would be discussed at the Master Plan update.
 - i. The community would also be involved to discuss what the vision for Farmington Hills could look like.
 - ii. Visions for zoning, uses, types of development will be discussed during the Master Plan process possibly at the end of 2022 or early 2023.
- c. Beiermeister inquired how the proposal for a new master plan will be set up.
 - i. Mr. Valentine replied that the new Master Plan will have a visioning component with community participation and to then filter ideas through discussion to come to a common output.
 - ii. Scott mentioned that some community visions are possible, but it is a matter of business owner outlook, financing, and what works for the area.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS:

- d. No additional board members comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- e. Ms. Arlin, Director for the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce noted her goals to build bridges between city governments as well as the community. She expressed these goals:
 - i. To involve the Chamber more in public meetings to understand government motivations in economic development.
 - ii. To continue improving the Chamber website.
 - 1. Susan Arlin has already improved the Chamber website in order to showcase more of Farmington Hills and Farmington.
 - iii. To support both Farmington Hills and Farmington as well as the communities at large.
 - iv. To get the Chamber more involved in Oakland Community College and their beneficial programs.
 - v. To build a stronger relationship within the Farmington Hills and Farmington community.
- f. Ms. Arlin, Director for the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce let the board know that the State of the City will be on March 10 at 7:00 a.m. at The Hawk.
- g. Chairman Cantor shared the idea with Ms. Arlin regarding a joint video marketing with businesses that have ideas “for building on our City”.
- h. Jefferies, a public member, commented that she believes Ms. Arlin is the right person for the Chamber.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Cantor, supported by Carr to approve adjournment at 8:45 a.m.
Unanimously approved.

Minutes Drafted by Cristia Brockway, Economic Development Director