# MINUTES CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION May 20, 2015 – Regular Meeting

The Economic Development Corporation of the City of Farmington Hills held its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, in the Community Room at City Hall. Chairman Anhut called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Members present: Anhut, Brock, Elliott, Marcellino, Jacknow and Johnson

Members absent: Gatewood, Hartsock, and Sarafa

Also present: Khalfani Stephens, Farmington Hills Director of Economic Development

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jacknow, support by Elliott, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

# APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Marcellino, support by Jacknow, to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 15, 2015 as published.

Motion carried unanimously.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chair Anhut noted that Tamara Spa was voted #1 in Oakland County. Petco is opening soon at the former Buggy Works site. Triatria sold awhile back and is not fully occupied by Drs. of the Millennial Group. Scott Elliot noted that FH's vacancy rate for office is 19% and declining. Holiday Inn Express is progressing. The newly remodeled movie house in West River Center is open and is beautiful! Casino revenue in Detroit is up 6%. Perhaps a bit more money for Detroit as a result.

Khalfani Stephens provided an update: Additional tenants are looking at the West River Center. One of them is close to signing a lease, but needed assistance in determining how to procure sign space. We have been working with her and it looks promising. The City has also been working with a housing developer to consider a senior targeted development. As always, we continue to meet with businesses and let them know of government programs to assist with their growth.

Mr. Anhut asked about the Georgetown Energy Prize competition. Brock gave an update.

Dave Marcellino gave an update on Botsford – Beaumont plans. All is going well for the investment in the Botsford campus. City planning process is moving along. Work should commence this summer including a parking structure, new room tower and power plant upgrade. Mr. M. also noted signage changes throughout the new system will begin soon. Ours is Beaumont – Botsford Campus. This will be an excellent thing for FH and the corridor along Grand River.

Approved

## **Guest Speaker, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson**

- Secretary Johnson gave an update on all things SOS. Voter registration is up as is staff morale.
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- She went on to talk about insurance fraud, unemployment rate (down to 5.8% from 14 just a few years ago) and several other topics. She's against any increase in the "tab" fees for drivers as this would hurt those least able to afford it. No particular insight as to how road funding will be cobbled together, but as a motorcyclist, she is in favor of better, safer roads.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

MOTION by Marcellino, support by Brock, to accept the financial report for May, 2015, as published. EDC is about out of money and this may need to be addressed in the late summer when the group next meets.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jacknow, support by Brock to cancel meetings of June, July and August for summer recess. Approved unanimously. Chair Anhut announced that the next EDC meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2015.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Anhut adjourned the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, City Manager Steve Brock Secretary, Economic Development Corporation