

City of Antioch Economic Development Commission MINUTES

**Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 1, 2014
6:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, in the City Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Wright, Vice Chair Archuleta, Commissioners Parhams, Parsons and Thorpe

Absent: Commissioner Asadoorian (excused) and Vacancy

Staff Present: City Manager Steve Duran, Economic Development Director Fitzer and Economic Development Analyst Nunnally

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Item 1 – Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Following a motion by Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Parhams, the minutes were approved 5-0-1 (Asadoorian absent during vote, one vacancy).

Item 2 – Economic Development Strategic Plan

City Manager Duran recounted the previous steps in development of the Economic Development Strategic Plan (EDSP) and discussed the next steps, which is for him to compile a Citywide draft that will be given to Council a couple of weeks before a Public Workshop is held. Vice Chair Archuleta asked the names of the Chamber representatives that attended the subcommittee meetings and stated that he liked that the ideas they've had have been put on paper to provide direction for the commission and subcommittee. Commissioners provided feedback on suggested revisions to the document and Staff took notes of the changes on which there was general consensus among the commissioners.

Archuleta asked if there was a way that the commissioners could see a full draft of the Citywide Strategic Plan to get a better sense of how they might integrate what they do into the 'whole picture'. Duran responded that commissioners could meet with him if they wanted to see the current draft.

Thorpe then asked if the document served as an EDC recommendation to Council, to which Duran replied that if the EDC wanted to make a recommendation then it could appoint a spokesperson to present at the Workshop so that the Council and community would know what the process was. Parsons moved to accept the changes to the document and to make the EDSP a recommendation to Council with Commissioner Thorpe seconding the motion (5-0-1, Asadoorian absent, one vacancy). There was then general consensus among the commissioners that Archuleta serve as the EDC spokesperson to make the recommendation at the Workshop.

Item 3 – Four Focus Areas

Chair Wright asked if there were any updates or comments on the four focus areas, and there were none for a. Quality of Life or b. Human Capital Development.

c. For the Business and Community Outreach focus area, Wright updated the Commission that he's been continuing talks with Kish Rajan of GO-Biz around creating a regional economic development focus for the East Bay Area, the Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust about encouraging ag-tourism in East Contra Costa and with the East Bay Leadership Council about the Northern Waterfront Development Initiative.

d. Under the Infrastructure and Capital Development item, Parsons indicated that AB 935 was still stalled, but that she thought there might be a better chance for Antioch to get a terminal now due to Martinez's interest in locating a terminal there as well.

At the conclusion of Parson's comments, Archuleta proposed that the EDC re-structure the four Focus Areas to realign with the EDSP and there was a general consensus among the commissioners to add the discussion as an item to next agenda. Wright asked EDA Nunnally for an update about the Bay Water Trail meeting, and Nunnally reported that it seemed positive and outlined a couple of the follow-up steps being taken to work toward Antioch's marina being accepted for inclusion as a stop on the Trail. Thorpe then spoke about business incentives at both the state- and local-level, recounting some of the state-sponsored incentive programs' aims and what he'd like to see the City of Antioch offer at the local level. Wright then asked to agendize the changing of the regular meeting agenda to mirror the new strategic plan and there was general agreement among the commissioners.

Item 5 – Comments

- a) Public – None
- b) Commission – Thorpe expressed that he was excited to be on the EDC and that he had a new appreciation for CM Duran and EDD Fitzer. Wright announced the 5/21/2014 Showcase of the Schools and 5/30/2014 State of the City event, then Parhams announced a career fair on 4/11/2014 hosted by Experience Unlimited and California State University, East Bay.
- c) Staff – Nunnally announced that 4/10/2014 was the deadline for applications to fill the existing partial-term EDC vacancy, that he'd be attending the annual CALED conference next week and that a City team had met with the new managers of the Somersville Towne Center with regard to their purchase and plans to invest about \$1 million into redeveloping the mall. Duran informed the EDC that Contra Loma Plaza was sold in September and that the new

ownership was seeking tenants and had already submitted an application to the Planning Division related to façade improvements.

Item 6 – Adjournment

Wright announced that the next regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission would be held Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the City Council Chamber and adjourned the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission at 7:03 PM.

DRAFT