

Economic Development Council of Tillamook County
Executive Board Minutes
Tuesday, March 19, 2013

Board Members
Present

Suzanne Weber
Tony Enzler
Michele Bradley
Doug Olson
Mark Labhart
Dale Stockton
Ray Sieler
Connie Green

Board Members Not
Present

Mike St. Clair
Patrick Criteser

Staff Present

Dan Biggs

Carla Lyman

Citizens Attending

Angelina Pepper
Jennifer Purcell
Ken Bell
Kelley Cook
Mary McArthur

Amy Reiergaard
Patrick Wingard
Mark Ellsworth
Whitey Forsman

Justin Aufdermauer
Larry McKinnley
Gus Meyer
John Boyd

Call to Order (agenda item 1)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Michele Bradley at 12:01 pm.

Consent Agenda (agenda item 2)

A motion was made by Doug Olson and seconded by Suzanne Weber to approve the minutes with the spelling correction noted and the financial reports as presented. The motion carried.

Update on the Tillamook Regional Economic Opportunities analysis (EOA) Project (agenda item 3)

Patrick Wingard of DLCD presented a summary of the report that covers from the Creamery South to the Port of Tillamook Bay, west to the coast with Oceanside and Netarts. He explained that they are asking questions regarding things like possible zoning adjustments that might be appropriate to make the most of the buildable lands within the region. The project is now moving from this factual stage into the strategic stage. The EDC Board was encouraged to attend a meeting which will be held in late April to help with this process. Patrick also stated that public hearings will be held in May and that it is key for this plan is co-adopted by both the County and the City.

New Business

Six month review of the EDC Director (agenda item 4.A)

Connie Green reminded that Board that a six-month and one year review have been done for Dan Biggs and the Board had agreed they wanted to continue the evaluation process every six months. Doug Olson stated he felt waiting for September would be too long and the six month review should be take place . Connie will send out the evaluation to Board members by the end of the week.

Board Elections (agenda item 4.B)

Dan Biggs informed that Board that the terms of Doug Olson, Michele Bradley, and Tony Enzler are ending in June 2013. All three have indicated their interest in continuing on the Board. Follow up will happen in April.

Old Business

TRT Tax Update (agenda item 5.A)

Dan Biggs reminded the Board that public meetings have been held a working committee is in the process of vetting five or six proposals with a proposal coming to the EDC Board by the end of May. Mark Labhart mentioned that there are a lot of people who want to be involved in this process and it is particularly important to make sure that the short term rental community, as well as state parks is involved. Mark suggested that the committee have open meetings in North, Central, and South County for people to have input on the different proposals. Dan will work to schedule those meetings.

Review of 2nd Annual Tourism Symposium (agenda item 5.B)

Dan Biggs gave an overview of the Tourism Symposium, which was help on Monday, March 18, 2013. He stated that the program was taped and will be available to view on cable access TV and also the Internet.

Suzanne Weber stated that she really believes that the County needs to work together and needs centralized promotion of the County. She also stated that she believes the County wide TRT is the way to create a pool of money to do that.

Mark Labhart complimented the committee on the successful symposium, mentioning it had fantastic speakers and the food and networking were tremendous. He also pointed out that customer service training must be a constant process because of the turnover in employees. He also commented that there was just too much put into one day.

Michele Bradley suggested having a bigger venue next year. Doug Olson said that the IT problems need to be cleaned up because it makes the EDC and TBCC look bad. Ray Sieler and Doug Olson both commented that the food from the culinary program was great but the noise was a distraction.

Director's Report (agenda item 6)

Dan Biggs asked Jennifer Purcell to share an overview of the bovine mortality process. She explained that the next step is to take their findings to a broader group for evaluation. Dan added that the group will be looking at all possible revenue stream and the goal is to have the establishment of businesses that can be scaled and possibly sell technology license throughout the U.S. and throughout the World.

Board Member Comments (agenda item 7)

- Suzanne Weber informed that Board that the City has received a CDBG grant to upgrade the sewer facilities on the South end of town. Col-Pac will be administering that grant.
- Tony Enzler stated that a lot of companies are coming to the bank looking for money to do deferred maintenance. Sterling Bank does have money to lend for those types of projects. He also updated the Board that their Quilt Square has been moved to the 3rd Street facilities and the building on Pacific Avenue has been sold.
- Michele Bradley reminded everyone that there is Port of Tillamook Bay Board meeting tonight (Tuesday, March 19).
- Doug Olson said that the hospitality industry is getting ready for spring break.
- Dan Biggs reported that a contract has been signed with the Pelican Brewery for Enterprise Zone tax abatements.
- Connie Green shared with the Board that renovation of a wing at Neah-Kah-Nie High School, which will serve as TBCC North, will begin this summer.
- Mark Labhart gave an overview of some of what is happening in the legislature such as regional solutions, 911, and parks. There are 91 transportation bills.
- Ray Sieler said that the Tillamook PUD Board has approved about \$50,000 in community grants. Ray pointed out the power supply is a critical factor in the Tillamook Regional Opportunity Analysis that was presented by Patrick Wingard earlier in the meeting.
- Dale Stockton stated that it took one and a half years to get all the permits for the dredging project and the project is now over. They may be looking at dredging in Wheeler next.

The Board thanked Amy Reiesgaard for everything she has done for the community. Amy is moving out of the area.

Save the Date of Thursday June 13 for the EDC Annual dinner.

The Coastal Caucus will be in Lincoln City on August 20th and 21st.

Adjournment (agenda item 8)

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Michele Bradley at 1:23 pm.