



CITY OF

West Linn

22500 Salamo Road
West Linn, Oregon 97068

<http://westlinnoregon.gov>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Draft Meeting Notes

Thursday, February 25, 2021

Members Present: Chair Shannen Knight, Vice Chair Drew Hanson, Shannon Ilas, Russell Williams, Robert Lauron, Julia Williams, and Councilor Mary Baumgardner

Members Absent: Riad Alharithi

Members of the Public: Kim Bria

Staff Liaison: Chris Myers, Associate Planner

1. Call to Order

Chair Knight called the meeting called to order at 6:34 pm. Chris Myers called the roll.

2. Public Comment For Non-Agenda item

Kim Bria requested to speak on Agenda Item 5.

3. Officer Elections

Drew Hanson volunteered to be the committee chair. Russel Williams nominated Shannon Knight to be Chair. ED. Knight, Hanson, Lauron, and Williams voted for Hanson. Ilas and Williams voted for Knight. Hanson was elected chair of the EDC.

Shannon Ilas volunteered to be the vice chair. Knight, Hanson, Lauron, Williams, Ilas, and Williams voted for Hanson. Ilas was elected vice chair of the EDC.

4. Discussion: Food trucks

Chair Hanson opened the discussion on food trucks. Knight summarized discussions to date. At the meeting in August 2020, the EDC reviewed the Happy Valley food truck ordinance and modified it for West Linn. The EDC voted to send the draft Food Truck proposal to the City Council for consideration.

Myers will prepare a food cart proposal based on the Committee's 8/27/20 and 2/25/21 discussions and email it to members for review. Myers will request the item be placed on the City Council agenda for consideration.

5. Discussion: What does Economic Development look like in 2021

Kim Bria, a West Linn citizen, commented on the economic development in 2021. She noted that the City does not have a fully funded economic development staff position. She stated that the number one thing that the EDC should be focused on this year is protecting and developing existing businesses. She identified the following opportunities:

- Network with the Chamber of Commerce, Historic Willamette, and Main Street to identify resources and needs and share information and opportunities;

- Identify City staff to attend the Clackamas County Business Association and the Westside Economic Alliance;
- Recognize the challenges of business owners who speak English as a second language;
- Develop an internship program to pair high school students with businesses to develop social media presence;
- Targeted quarterly surveys;
- Recognizing tourism opportunities;
- Encourage pop-up stores in empty spaces;
- Art exhibits; and
- Support the TIF district.

The Committee discussed ideas to help West Linn businesses recover post-pandemic.

Myers will email the link to the City Council TIF Distract discussion to the Committee.

Lauron noted that the EDC needs to make itself known to businesses.

The Committee discussed creating a video about West Linn.

Chair Hanson asked Councilor Baumgardner about the 2021 goals for the EDC. She replied that the Council had not set 2021 goals for the Committee.

Chair Hanson requested that the next meeting be a joint meeting with the West Linn Chamber of Commerce.

6. Adjourn

Chair Hanson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.