

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
31555 ELEVEN MILE ROAD  
FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48336  
(248) 871-2417**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
THE COMMUNITY ROOM  
January 18, 2017 - 8:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anhut, Elliott, Hartsock, Johnson, and Zachos

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gatewood, Beiermeister, Sarafa

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Khalfani Stephens, Economic Development; Maureen Hale, EJH

**1. Meeting Called To Order**

Chair John Anhut at 8:15 am

**2. Roll Call**

Quorum

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Move Hartsock, second Johnson, all Ayes  
Motion carried

**4. Approval of Minutes: November 16, 2016**

Tabled

**5. Chairman's Report**

Mr. Anhut gave his chair report- the Paul Mitchel Salon is moving forward on construction (refurbishing the former Steak and Ale building). The Old Tribute restaurant is now called Chef's Table and is expected to open in three weeks. Harley Davidson now rents motorcycles. Suburban has bought the Toyota property. The chair had an opportunity to meet the new chamber director, Mary Martin. The Botsford garage is finished. Bella Vino is looking for tenants for the newly renovated building it owns. Lellis has zoning questions and a visit is in order.

Mr. Anhut introduced Maureen Hale of EJH construction. Ms. Hale spoke about the company's history and their current needs. The company was founded in 1983 and moved to its current building in 2001. They are having difficulty finding workers with the needed skill set or those interested in training to attain the skill set. The company is still looking for new space and has been for some time now.

Mr. Anhut asked if there were an opportunity to support a vocational school.

Mr. Stephens noted that there are several programs at the State level to assist with workforce development and will be sending Ms. Hale information on those programs. He also noted that the Oakland Intermediate school District does support vocational training.

6. **New Business/Old Business**

Discussion of future role of EDC

Mr. Johnson noted that the original goal of the EDC has been met (The City has encouraged the development of a robust industrial district) and the City now has a professional in the position to promote retention and growth of that sector. Additionally the economy is rapidly changing and the needs of businesses today and tomorrow may be different from when the EDC was first created.

Mr. Hartsock noted that the EDC should look to bridge the gap between what businesses need and what government offers.

Ms. Hale noted that the ambassador role the group plays is very much welcomed by businesses.

7. **Committee Reports**

None

8. **Board Members' Comments**

Mr. Anhut and Mr. Hartsock asked about the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority and their ability to finance activity, and specifically about bonding.

Mr. Stephens explained that preliminary projections suggest that the Board will have positive cash flow for the first time this year. The projections are not high, only a few thousand dollars and as such maybe enough for a few facade grants or similar programs. The Authority has the ability to bond, but right now, that would not be a good move as there was not yet an established history of revenue against which to bond and because there are not specific projects currently under way. He added that when there is an established history of cash flow as new projects arise bonding is a vehicle that can be explored.

9. **Public Comments**

None

10. **Adjournment**

No meeting scheduled for February. Next meeting scheduled for March 15.  
9:30

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Anhut  
Chairman, Economic Development Corporation

**NOTE: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting, wherein necessary arrangements/accommodations will be made. Thank you.**