

MEETING MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
OCTOBER 16, 2019 8:00 AM  
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM  
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD  
FARMINGTON HILLS MI 48336

**CALLED TO ORDER BY:** CHAIRMAN HARTSOCK AT 8:04 AM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** ANHUT, BEIERMEISTER, CANTOR, ELLIOTT, HARTSOCK, LINDSEY-FEAGIN, SLAUGHTER, ZACHOS

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Samantha Seimer, Economic Development Director; Gary Mekjian, Assistant City Manager; Diane Holcomb, Mark Stec, City Planner; T. R. Carr;

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Elliott, support by Anhut, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 18, 2019:**

Mr. Anhut requested that in the meeting minutes, under Chairman’s Report, bullet point one, the word “building” be replaced with the word “leasing.”

Motion by Anhut, support by Slaughter to approve the minutes as amended.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

Presentation of Small Business Retention Award deferred to later date when award recipient can attend the EDC meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Election of Officers:

- Chairperson
  - Mr. Cantor was nominated by Mr. Anhut. The Board supported the nomination unanimously.
- Vice Chairperson
  - Mr. Hartsock was nominated by Chairman Cantor. The Board supported the nomination unanimously.
- Secretary
  - Mr. Elliott was nominated by Chairman Cantor. The Board supported the nomination unanimously.

Motion by Zachos for recognition and highest compliments paid to Mr. Anhut for contributions to the community and time as Chairman of the EDC, support by Slaughter.  
Motion Carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Ms. Seimer updated the Board about the business incubator at The Hawk. She stated that the RFP is available on the City’s Purchasing Network, the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network. Responses are due back from vendors on October 23. From there, the bids will be reviewed internally and from there a work group can be established to review the proposals and make a recommendation to City Council. Ms. Seimer added that there may need to be a refresher for City Council depending on the outcome of the November election.
- Ms. Seimer reviewed the business survey with the Board. It will be sent to businesses on her contact list, as well as Farmington Hills businesses that are Chamber Members. She added that there is a new executive director of

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the Chamber, Connor Osborne. She plans to bring him up to date on this initiative as soon as he is settled into his new role.

- Mr. Stec stated that the Planning Commission has reviewed zoning ordinance text amendments. The first text amendment is to raise the height limits in certain commercial and office districts throughout the city. Mr. Stec stated that the amendment does not allow for additional stories, but greater ceiling heights to adjust to the more modern offices that businesses desire to attract and retain a competitive workforce. It was added that the other text amendment required property owners to sign off on acknowledgement of donation collection bins on the property. Therefore the property owner will be responsible for the maintenance of such items.

**BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

- Chairman Cantor spoke about the importance of remaining an active EDC citing projects undertaken by the Board in the past including assisting the Grand River Corridor and providing funds to the City to help start its website. He stated that there are some other areas and boards throughout the city that the EDC may choose to become involved, specifically stating the Community for a Lifetime Designation achieved by the Commission on Aging.
- The Board discussed the past mentorship program. Mr. Hartsock noted that the schools pulled back on this partnership, but now may be a good time for the EDC to get involved to help revitalize and coordinate the program further. Ms. Holcomb stated that she could schedule a follow-up meeting with Diane Bauman at Farmington Public Schools and perhaps include a presentation giving greater detail about the 13<sup>th</sup> Year Program discussed by Dr. Herrera at the September meeting. Mr. Slaughter also expressed his interest in being part of the mentorship program.
- Mr. Elliott stated that the Sarah Fisher property will be going back up for sale, EHM could not make their project work but Mr. Elliott is working on another deal for the site.
- Mr. Mekjian stated that Bid Pack #2 for The Hawk has been approved by Council and construction will begin towards the end of the month of October.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- The next meeting of the EDC will be November 20, 2019 at 8:00 AM.

Chairman Cantor adjourned the meeting at 9:14 AM

Minutes drafted by: Samantha Seimer