

MEETING MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
APRIL 17, 2019 8:00 AM  
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM  
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD  
FARMINGTON HILLS MI 48336

**CALLED TO ORDER BY:** CHAIRMAN ANHUT AT 8:06 AM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** ANHUT, BEIERMEISTER, CANTOR, ELLIOTT, MARTIN, SLAUGHTER, ZACHOS

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** HARTSOCK, LINDSEY-FEAGIN,

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Samantha Seimer, Economic Development Director; Diane Holcomb, Assistant to John Anhut; Mike Tobin, Group Five Management Company T.R. Carr, Resident.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Cantor, support by Slaughter, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20, 2019:**

- Mr. Cantor inquired about the connected city project, and asked why the minutes discuss a business survey. Mr. Beiermeister stated that the connected initiative has been expanded to include businesses that use technology to engage consumers as it is part of the connected city scope. He added that there will be a set of requirements to be considered a connected company and use the branding that is created.
- Mr. Cantor asked about the upcoming Chamber Cyber Security Lunch and Learn. He stated that in the past the police department used to have an outreach program for identity theft and online security. Ms. Martin stated that the police are not part of this specific Lunch and Learn Program. Ms. Seimer added that the police department still has their cyber security outreach program.

Motion by Cantor support by Martin to approve the minutes as submitted.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

- Chairman Anhut stated that he recently attended City Council Meetings in support of the Nissan Tax Abatement.
- He reported that Denise Rabidoux of Evangelical Homes of Michigan, who presented to the EDC in February, is no longer with the organization. He added that the development of the Sarah Fisher Property is similar to a project in Saline that he toured. The Chairman added that the development has recently run into some issues with the Historical Society.
  - Mr. Slaughter asked what types of problems the Evangelical Homes Project is facing at the Historical Society. Chairman Anhut stated that the plans for the development include keeping two historical buildings on the property. The Society is asking that the development maintain the lead windows and shale roof.
  - Ms. Martin added that EHM attended the Annual Dinner, the City Leadership is engaged in the project and understands what is happening.
  - Ms. Seimer stated that she has not seen any indication that the project is in jeopardy.
- He reported that he met with the group developing the hotels at Hamilton Court and 12 Mile, representatives may attend an EDC meeting in the near future.
- Chairman Anhut added that he is working on an annual report to City Council.
- Chairman Anhut introduced Mike Tobin, who owns the Tobin Building on 10 Mile Road and Group Five Management Company

Mr. Tobin stated that he moved from next to the Citgo Gas Station, to next to the Walgreens along 10 Mile

- His building is 18,000 SF and the space is utilized as a storage for the properties he owns and manages.
- Group give Management Company builds, develops and manages over 25 residential properties in Michigan, with 2 in Ohio.
- He stated that he is happy to be in Farmington Hills and stated that the City was very helpful every step of the way throughout building his new office.
- Chainman Anhut presented Mr. Tobin with a framed picture of his property, provided by City Planner Mark Stec.

**BUSINESS:**

None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Harrison High School – Incubator Space
  - Mr. Cantor provided an updated about the Harrison High School Incubator Space. He stated that is he working to put together a group of subject matter experts to tour the space and provide feedback. He is working to schedule this for an evening in May.
    - It was noted that the group for the tour should be small. Ms. Seimer stated that she would reach out to the video division to see if they may be able to record the feedback from the meeting for the whole EDC Board to access.
  - So far, the feedback about the concept has been positive.
  - Mr. Cantor stated that he received a contact for the EDA which has grant money. Ms. Seimer stated that she has looked at their grant opportunities; it will be great to have a direct point of contact with the organization.
  - Mr. Zachos asked if there has been outreach with Wayne State University. Mr. Cantor affirmed that there has been outreach regarding the project with Wayne State.
- Connected City
  - Mr. Beiermeister reviewed that the intention is to set up qualifications for being a connected business.
  - Ms. Seimer added that there isn't too much of an update to report since the EDC Meeting in March.
  - Chairman Anhut asked stated that he would make a connection with L. Brooks Patterson regarding this initiative.
  - Mr. Cantor informed the Board about a program put together by the Commission on Aging nearly five years ago designating Farmington Hills as a Community for a Lifetime. He believes there is a link between some of the areas identified in the plan and being a connected city with different phone apps and other technologies accessible for all ages.

**BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS:**

- Ms. Martin informed the Board that the 2019 Annual Golf Outing is May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Mr. Slaughter announced that his dealership was named GM Dealership of the Year.
- Mr. Beiermeister updated the Board about the Marshall Plan. He stated that the last opportunity for funding is in April, and it does not appear that the school district has submitted any plans.
  - Chairman Anhut asked if our State Representative is involved and stated that he would contact our representative to encourage the Marshall Plan funding to be renewed.
  - Mr. Beiermeister will continue conversations with Superintendent Heitsch.
- Mr. Beiermeister stated that Lelli's is under new management and needs assistance to bolster a larger lunch crowd.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- Chairman Anhut announced that the next meeting of the EDC will be May 15, 2019 at 8:00 AM

Chairman Anhut adjourned the meeting at 9:05 AM

Minutes drafted by: Samantha Seimer