

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

September 14th, 2022

The Richmond Economic Development Commission's monthly meeting convened at 11:40 AM on September 14th, 2022, via Zoom webinar.

Call to Order: 11:40 AM by Chair, A. Anderson

1. Roll Call:

A quorum was present with the following commission members: A. Anderson, A. Nurse, K. Lynch, G. Sewell Murphy, O. Willis, D. Wear, D. Heiss, R. Yazdi, R. Lee, N. Reams

2. Absent:

A. Portillo-Knowles, B. Evanss

3. Staff:

Lizeht Zepeda, Kyle Lam

4. Council Liaison:

5. Guest:

Justine Burt

6. Minutes:

1st – D. Heiss, 2nd – G. Sewell-Murphy

Presentation

Justine Burt, Project Manager, Richmond – Green-Blue New Deal Workforce Development Plan. Presentation by Justine Burt on the Green-Blue New Deal Workforce Development Plan. Kickoff meeting on June 21st and currently on a fifteen-month sprint to create deliverables, with the idea and goal to catalyzing at least one thousand new green/blue jobs for Richmond residents, to build a just, equitable, resilient, and sustainable future.

Main deliverables: Green New Deal Workforce Development Plan, Implementation Strategy, Community Toolkit, Building Decarbonization Job Analysis, Economic Development Insight Analysis (HR&A), and Community workshops and focus groups.

Current Accomplishments: Tabling at National Night Out, Completion of 34 informational interviews, Attended Marin Clean Energy Event, Presented to Economic Development Commission.

Next Steps: Scheduled to present at Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, Richmond Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Management and Leadership Team, and Richmond Workforce Development Board; Receive community feedback for logo designs

Committee Reports

Policy

Looking for chair for policy. No update at this time.

Community Engagement

Commissioner Wear discussed that Community Engagement Subcommittee is ready to get started with reaching out and informing small business. Currently waiting for information and documentations from City.

Taste of Richmond

No Update at this time.

Cannabis

Commissioner Nurse discussed the RFP/RFQ that was recently released for the social equity ordinance. Cultivators have reached out and expressed desired to put on an Expo. Subcommittee has met with Economic Development Department to discuss aspects of the RFP.

Sustainability: Businesses/Industrial Hemp & Expo/Assessment

Commissioner Sewell-Murphy discussed attendance at the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) meetings to discuss allocation of ARPA funds. Commissioner Sewell-Murphy emphasized importance of rebranding Richmond's reputation to attract more businesses. It would be advantageous for Expo to showcase businesses and sustainability in Richmond, as well as showcasing Richmond's history and Richmond in general. Survey and expo are currently in draft form and will be discussed during next Economic Development Commission meeting.

Report from City Council: No report received

Staff Reports

Finance Department

New Fiscal Year has begun, department is currently collecting funds from businesses. Currently in development of one page pamphlet and will share with community engagement

subcommittee to handout. Department is doing outreach in key corridors. Department is on the final steps for sending out renewal notices for rentals.

City Manager's Office

Lizeht Zepeda discussed the appointment of a commissioner to be a part of the reviewing process for the Cannabis RFQ. Commissioner Heiss and Commissioner Lynch volunteered for the appointment.

Mayor's Office

No updates.

Public Comments/Announcements/Handouts Presentation: (Video Timestamp: 1:12:45)

Cordell Hindler welcomed Nicole Reams to the commission and also congratulated James Lee and Brandon Evans for re-appointment. Cordell has met with the youth council to ask youth to apply to vacancies in the Economic Development Commission.

Lizeht Zepeda read Cordell's comment: The commission is invited to El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce Mixer on September 2nd from 5-7:30 at the 174 El Cerrito Plaza.

The commission is also invited to Richmond Rotary Club weekly meeting on September 30th at the Richmond Country Club. Lunch is \$25. Steve Early and Suzanne Gordon will present on their new book.

7. Next Meeting: October 11, 2022

8. Adjournment: 1:09 PM