



CITY OF MILPITAS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MILPITAS CITY HALL COMMITTEE MEETING ROOM
APPROVED MINUTES
April 12, 2010

- I. Pledge of Allegiance** Chair Brahmbhatt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Roll Call** Present were Chair Brahmbhatt, Vice Chair Mendizabal, Commissioners Ablaza, Bhambhra, McEvoy, Mulder (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), C. Nguyen, M. Nguyen, Peoples, Tsao and Yu; City staff Diana Barnhart and Veronica Bejines
- Absent: Commissioner Serpa
- III. Seating of Alternates** Alternates seated: Commissioner Bhambhra.
- IV. Announcements** Ms. Barnhart announced that she attended the March 17th ICSC Conference on retail where she met with grocery oriented retailers who are interested in coming to Milpitas.
- Commissioner C. Nguyen asked if Trader Joes or Whole Foods is coming to Milpitas and Ms. Barnhart said she will be happy to contact them again.
- Commissioner Yu asked if Costco is a possibility for the McCarthy Ranch and Ms. Barnhart said that Costco was not at the conference so she is not sure.
- Commissioner Peoples announced that the Water Pollution Control Plant Community Advisory Group will be hosting a meeting at City Hall on Saturday, May 1st at 9:00 a.m.
- V. Mayor's Report** There was no report from the Mayor.
- VI. Public Forum** There were no speakers from the audience.



Ms. Stadelman said she researched the unemployment rate in Milpitas and it looked like NOVA was not serving enough residents in Milpitas. Last year, NOVA laid off 7% of their work force and now they do not have enough instructors. Ms. Stadelman suggested that the Commission could help by gathering volunteer instructors for Milpitas residents and NOVA can provide the curriculum and training. Currently, the workshops in Sunnyvale are very popular and fill up that same day with people coming at 6:00 a.m. to sign up. She also noted that they have an arrangement with other high schools and it might be possible to look at high schools in Milpitas and have someone from NOVA go there in the afternoon. They had great participation in their summer youth program. Ms. Stadelman said she sees the need to get an extension in Milpitas and would like to meet with the City manager and get on the Council agenda and Ms. Barnhart said she will be happy to follow up.

Ms. Barnhart added that the Silicon Valley Business Development Center training classes seem to be working out pretty good with 53 people signing up for the last class.

Ms. Pryor said their will be a meeting at the Milpitas library on June 16th from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Ms. Barnhart asked her to e-mail the flyer to the Commission.

Commissioner Mulder asked if NOVA would be a good idea for a small employer trying to expand to hire new employees and Ms. Stadelman said NOVA meets different people from all walks of life and she could get resumes out. Ms. Barnhart added that NOVA worked with a start up company that moved to Milpitas and they hired at least one person.

Ms. Barnhart asked how the Commission could accomplish training needs in Milpitas. Ms. Stadelman said the only way the Commission could do that is by talking to their family and friends and find out what their needs are.

Commissioner Yu suggested that Quick Books would be a good class to train people on.



X. Old Business

2. Subcommittee Reports and Recommendations - Business Retention and Attraction (Bhambhra, Yu, Peoples and M. Nguyen) – Venture Capital Seminar

Ms. Barnhart announced that there is not a rescheduled date yet for the Venture Capital Seminar.

3. Small Business Update – Commissioner Mulder

Commissioner Mulder announced that he had a meeting with Ms. Barnhart, the Planning Director, Chief Building Official and Fire Marshal about conducting a survey for small business people. The purpose of the survey would be to try to improve the process and make it more user friendly. He also said that he will work with Commissioner Yu.

Commissioner Bhambra asked how Commissioner Mulder will communicate with the small businesses and Ms. Barnhart said she will be giving Commissioner Mulder an updated list.

Chair Brahmbhatt said he is worried that the businesses will not tell Commissioner Mulder how they truly feel and suggested that the survey be anonymous.

Commissioner Bhambra also said it is important to find out when the process started, how long did it take and why it took so long. He also pointed out that Commissioner Mulder might have a hard time with language barriers.

Ms. Barnhart said that she will be scheduling another meeting with staff and Commissioner Mulder.

4. Development Classes at City Hall – Ms. Barnhart

Ms. Barnhart announced that the Silicon Valley Business Development Center will be hosting another class at City Hall on Wednesday, April 12th as well as a QuickBooks class on April 28th. She said she will find out from the presenter if they want to host more classes.

