



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Monday, February 11, 2013 at 6:05 p.m.

Where: Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room

Attendants: Councilwoman Montano, Chair Peoples, Commissioners Ablaza, Ahuja, Bhambhra, Howard, M. Nguyen, Tsao, and Wettenstein; PN&S Director Steve McHarris, Principal Housing Planner Felix Reliford, and Recording Secretary Rachelle Currie

Excused Absence: Vice Chair Brahmbhatt, Commissioners Grilli, and C. Nguyen

I. **Flag Salute**

Chair Peoples called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **Roll Call and Approval of Alternates**

Chair Peoples called for Roll. Vice Chair Brahmbhatt, and Commissioners C. Nguyen and Grilli are not present.

III. **Announcements**

Chair Peoples welcomed Councilwoman Montano as the Commission's Council Liaison replacing Mayor Esteves. Councilwoman Montano introduced herself and gave brief personal and professional backgrounds to the commission. She mentioned that one of her main focuses for the City of Milpitas is the preserve the economic stability and recruit new businesses for the City.

Councilwoman Montano reported to the Commission that the Council from the last meeting has postponed the discussion on the Fire Department's layoff issue.

Chair Peoples welcomed new Commissioner Howard, representing the Hotel Industry of the Commission. Commissioner Howard told the commission a brief description of himself.

Planning Director McHarris reported that the Braddock Logan project will be heard at the 2/27/2013 Planning Commission meeting.

IV. **Public Forum (Please *limit comments to 3 minutes*)**

Commissioner Mercedes Albana of the City's Emergency Preparedness Commission presented information about the Milpitas' Disaster Preparedness Program called SAFE (Strategic Actions For Emergencies) and Santa Clara County's Emergency Alert System.

V. **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Wettenstein moved to approve the agenda as submitted and seconded by Commissioner Ablaza. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. **Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2012**

Motion: to approve the November 19, 2012 Unapproved Minutes as submitted.

Motion/Second: C. Nguyen/Ablaza

Motion carried by a vote of:

Ayes: 8

Noes: 0

Absent: 3 (Brahmbhatt, Grilli, C. Nguyen)

VII. **New Business**

A. Presentation from San Jose State's Sustainable Mobility Systems for Silicon Valley

Mr. Ron Swenson and a group of San Jose State's students gave an extensive overview of podcar networks. They focused on the two aspects that they would like to convey to everyone namely, a) The prospect of an improved quality of life in the community; and b) the opportunity for local businesses to become vendors in the podcar industry. Question and answer between the commission and presenters ensued.

B. City Traffic Engineer Presentation Related to Overall Milpitas' Traffic Conditions

Traffic Engineer Steve Chan presented to the commission an overview of traffic-related issues within the City and informed everyone any/and all projects relating to traffic mitigations concerning not just Milpitas but the Santa Clara County in its entirety. Discussion followed after the presentation.

C. Develop the Commission's Goals for the New Year and Establish 2013 Work Plan

Per Chair Peoples request, this agenda item was skipped and will be brought back to the next meeting, asking the Commissioners to think of ideas for a work plan and send to him by email.

VIII. Old Business

A2. Subcommittee Update

Commissioner Wettenstein asked for a follow-up on FTZ and EB-5 Program. Perspective businesses would like to get more information as to what the status of these programs in Milpitas. Recording Secretary Currie will check with the City Manager on the status of these programs and will report back to the Commission when additional information is gathered. Commissioner Tsao informed everyone that they could also look up City of Houston, Texas EB-5 program.

IX. Other Business

Commissioner Wettenstein asked if the City has a list of buildings with the following specifications: 20,000 square feet with a 20' height clearance. Reason being, some start-up companies that he has been in contact with are having difficulty locating such space rentals.

X. Upcoming Events

Commissioner Wettenstein informed everybody that Milpitas Chamber of Commerce is on planning stages to host a variation of the old Annual Art and Wine Festival, sometime in September. More information will come in the near future.

X. Adjourn – Commissioner Ablaza moved, and Commissioner Wettenstein seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03pm to the next regular meeting on March 11, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.