



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Monday, June 8, 2015 at 6:08 pm

Where: Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room

Attendants: Vice Mayor Montano; Chair Wettenstein; Vice Chair Ablaza (6:26pm); Commissioners C. Nguyen (6:26pm), M. Nguyen, Nunez, Owens, Peoples, and Strle; Economic Development Manager Edesa Bitbadal, and Recording Secretary Rachele Currie

Excused Absence: Commissioners Holthaus, Tsao

Unexcused Absence: Commissioners Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt, Wong

I. **Flag Salute**

Chair Wettenstein called the meeting to order at 6:08pm and Commissioner Nunez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chair Wettenstein called for Roll. Vice Chair Ablaza and Commissioner C. Nguyen were not present during roll call but both came in at 6:26pm. Commissioners Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt, Tsao, Wong and Alternate Commissioner Holthaus were not present.

III. **Public Forum (Please *limit comments to 3 minutes*)** – Mr. Tom Valore of Milpitas Chamber of Commerce, mentioned that they received positive feedback from patrons and vendors of the second annual Milpitas International BBQ event held last May. Commissioner Strle asked how many attendees during the weekend event. Mr. Valore replied that attendance was estimated at 20,000 people.

IV. **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Nunez made the motion to move to approve the agenda as submitted seconded by Commissioner Peoples.

Motion carried by a vote of:

Ayes: 6
Noes: 0
Absent: Ablaza, Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt,
Holthaus, C. Nguyen, Tsao, Wong
Abstain: 0

V. **Approval of Minutes – May 11, 2015 Commission minutes**

Motion: to approve the May 11, 2015 Economic Development Commission Minutes as submitted.

Motion/Second: Commissioner Owens / Commissioner M. Nguyen

Motion carried by a vote of:

Ayes: 5
Noes: 0
Absent: Ablaza, Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt,
Holthaus, C. Nguyen, Tsao, Wong
Abstain: Strle

VI. **Announcements**

No announcement from Vice Mayor Montano.

Commissioner Peoples mentioned a community organization called Milpitas Community Museum comprised of Milpitas citizens who try to lobby people to build a park on the lot right next to the Milpitas library. A question and answer portion ensued regarding the subject lot. Commissioner Nunez asked who has the authority to say yes or no on the Request for Proposals; Commissioner Strle asked who owns the lot. Vice Mayor Montano responded that the Oversight Board has to sell to the highest bidder so other agencies (special districts) will get portions of the sale. Commissioner Strle is interested about the museum part and would like to entertain the notion of historical showcase near Great Mall's Dave & Buster for the interim while the Community Museum is working on the parkland issue. Chair Wettenstein gave a brief update on the Milpitas International BBQ event. At this point, Vice Chair Ablaza and Commissioner C. Nguyen walked in and joined the meeting.

Economic Development Manager Bitbadal reported that she made a presentation during the visit of San Juan, Philippines delegation to Milpitas City Hall. She also mentioned that she attended a Board of Equalization event on May 26.

VII. New Business

A. FY 2015-2016 Commission Budget

Ms. Bitbadal gave a brief explanation of this agenda item; she stated that a consensus from the commission as to how the commission as a whole would like to spend their budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Chair Wettenstein brought up pin badge that they could wear when attending an event so they would be recognized as the City of Milpitas Economic Development Commissioner. Some Commissioners still have their pin badge and okay with it. Another conversation about commissioners would like to send representative to business events was also discussed.

Motion: to approve using the Commission’s budget for the FY 15-16 in purchasing pin badges (for those who do not have one) and Commissioner attendance to events.

Motion/Second: Commissioner Nunez / Vice Chair Ablaza

Motion carried by a vote of:

Ayes:	6
Noes:	0
Absent:	Ablaza, Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt, Holthaus, C. Nguyen, Tsao, Wong
Abstain:	0

B. Bylaws Subcommittee Report

Ms. Bitbadal welcomed and introduced Mr. Michael Strle of Great Mall as the newest member of the Commission. Commissioner Strle thanked Ms. Bitbadal and gave a brief bio of himself stating that his goals coming on board Simon Property Group and as the General Manager of Great Mall include enhancing customer experience; community give back; and help make profits for Simon Property as well as the vendors. Vice Mayor Montano asked Commissioner Strle if he is the one recruiting to fill vacancies and he responded they have short-term leasing staff that takes care of that. Economic Development Manager Bitbadal suggested to put Great Mall report on a future Commission agenda.

Ms. Bitbadal reported that she met with the Bylaws Subcommittee; asked the Subcommittee members for any comments before the commission reviews the subcommittee recommendations. When no additional comments received, Ms. Bitbadal went section by section where there proposed amendments to the current bylaws and solicited comments from all Commissioners. Besides minor cleanup, major changes proposed are as follow:

Section 3 – Membership: added the word “**Commercial**” to Residential Real Estate representative

Section 7 – Meetings: change meeting start time from 6:00 pm to **4:00 pm**
Vice Chair Ablaza inquired if we move to 4:00 pm start time is that guaranteed for restaurant representative to attend? Commissioner Peoples commented that starting at 4:00 pm professionalizes a lot

Section 8 – Quorum: change five to **six** members

Motion: to approve the proposed bylaw amendments for Council approval.

Motion/Second: Commissioner Peoples / Commissioner Owens

Motion carried by a vote of:

Ayes:	8
Noes:	0
Absent:	Bhambhra, Brahmbhatt, Holthaus, Tsao, Wong
Abstain:	0

VIII. Upcoming Events – Chair Wettenstein reminded everyone of June 9th Milpitas Chamber of Commerce Breakfast at Senior Center, Beverly Heritage Mixer on June 18th; Commissioner Peoples mentioned Relay for Life on June 20th at Milpitas Sports field; and Commissioner C. Nguyen reported that Milpitas is the 8TH fastest growing City in the country according to Yahoo news he read.

X. Adjourn – Commissioner Nunez motioned, and seconded by Commissioner Peoplesto adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm. The motion carried unanimously.