

Economic Development Commission Minutes
EDC Room South City Hall
360 Rio Communities Blvd.
December 13, 2017

Call to Order

- Jim Winters called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call –

- Present: Jim Winters, Paul Baca, Kuan Tikkun, Fran Rossberg and Frank Logan
- Also present: City Manager Bob Skerry and Deputy Clerk Pam Johnson

Approval & signing of minutes of November 8, 2017 -

- Paul Baca moved to accept the minutes of the November 8 meeting as submitted. Frank Logan seconded the motion and the minutes were approved on 5-0 vote.

General Discussion –

- Fran Rossberg said she hasn't heard anything having to do with Welcome Neighbor. She said she talked to Lynn Rivera at Ageless Living and she wants to expand Welcome Neighbor to the entire county, but she told her we want to concentrate on Rio Communities.
- Frank Logan said the AED luncheon was good.
- Paul Baca said there were good speakers and he got some good information at the luncheon. He mentioned that he talked to NM Water Company and they say DR Horton will build forty homes in Eastland Hills so growth coming this way. He also said there was an article in the Albuquerque Journal about Keter which they referred to as being in Belen.
- Bob Skerry said Belen got bonds for Keter and we can't do that without a LEDA ordinance.
- Jim Winters said Keter will be good for the entire county because it will provide jobs.
- Paul Baca said we should have an EDC for the county and not create competition between the cities.
- Bob Skerry said Ralph Mimms and Los Lunas EDC want to see the county get involved and that's what VALEO is about and the article in the paper is about Valencia County. He said he got a report on GRT's for the last five months and Valencia County projection for the year is up \$2,985,919 and they have been up every year since 2012. He also said property tax county wide is up \$2,000,000 and the county gets \$500,000 of that.
- Kuan Tikkun updated on Mission Graduate and Domenici Conference. She said the Conference is supporting what Mission Graduate is doing and, if we're going to have economic development in the county, we need to get the education level up. She also said she did not see in our economic development plan something on workforce development.
- Jim Winters said that should be a topic for a full session so that we can come up with some things that we can do. He said there are 100 jobs unfilled in the industrial park and they can't find people even though the requirements are basic, and the pay is good.
- Paul Baca said it would be good for the companies to have a job fair at the high schools because some kids don't have direction and don't know those jobs are available. He said we put everyone on a track for college and that's not necessary.

- Jim Winters said we should start at middle school level and bring kids to the factories. He said we also need to get buy-in with the school board.
- Kuan Tikkun moved to cancel the last meeting in December. Frank Logan seconded the motion and the December 27 meeting was canceled on 5-0 vote.

LEDA Ordinance –

- Jim Winters distributed three documents - comments for the AED website, Economic Development Plan, and EDC Strategy Using LEDA and began discussion on the AED website.
- Kuan Tikkun said she would like to see something about location included in the statement. During the discussion, some changes suggested were adding “five miles east of I-25” after Los Lunas in the third sentence; adding “east of the Rio Grande” after scenic overlooks in the fourth sentence; changing “issues” to “information” in the last sentence; removing the reference to the city’s website and removing the first sentence in the paragraph.
- Frank Logan said we can give this to AED and they’ll edit it before they post it on their website.
- Kuan Tikkun moved to accept the statement for the AED website as revised. Fran Rossberg seconded and the motion passed on 5-0 vote.
- Jim Winters said he will retype the information and send it to Frank, so he can take it to AED.
- Jim Winters began a discussion on the LEDA document he submitted. He said he gave the LEDA document and the EDC Plan to our representatives at the State EDC and they will ask their lawyers to look at it and offer suggestions. He said the LEDA plan is stronger and more specific and people who serve on EDC or council in the future may not be up to date as to what is going on, so we need to make it harder to give away the city’s money. He explained that the document is written so that all deals are funneled through EDC because we don’t have a separate commission for LEDA.
- Frank Logan moved to submit the LEDA document as submitted with modifications that may come from the State. Paul Baca seconded, and the motion passed on 4-1 vote. Kuan Tikkun objected because she would like more time to look at the document.
- Jim Winters said we will have the opportunity to look at it again, but the vote allows him to take it to Council.

Economic Development Plan –

- Jim Winters began a discussion on the EDC Plan he submitted. He said everyone has seen parts of this document before and asked for further input.
- Corrections were made to Peralta and Bosque Farms population figures listed on the table on page 9.
- Kuan Tikkun suggested improving roads should be added to the strategy for industrial park. She also clarified that “establishing a festival approach to defining downtown” listed as a strategy under City Hall Complex means something in front of city hall and making it available for events.
- Paul Baca moved to approve the EDC Plan as submitted. Frank Logan seconded, and the motion passed on 5-0 vote.

Adjourn –

- Kuan Tikkun moved to adjourn the meeting. Fran Rossberg seconded and the meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Approved

Jim Winters, Chairman

Paul Baca

Frank Logan, Vice Chairman

Kuan Tikkun

Fran Rossberg, Secretary

Date: _____