



Economic Development Committee Minutes

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org/ED>

Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 248, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

April 29, 2014

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Council Committee Members Present: Boe, Campbell, and Mello.

Council Committee Members Absent: Walker (arrived at 10:20 a.m.)

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2014

Council Member Boe moved to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2014 meeting. Seconded by Council Member Mello. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.

Trends in the Timber Industry and New Housing Construction

At approximately 10:04 a.m., Ricardo Noguera, Community and Economic Development (CED) Director, provided opening remarks regarding Simpson Lumber Company, LLC. Dave McEntee, Simpson Investment Company, reviewed the last ten years in the timber industry, including demand versus capacity; lumber prices; recession in the housing industry; key lumber demand drivers; housing cycles; home sales for new and existing homes; median existing price and home equity; and the housing collapse, including demand, correction, household formation, and forecasting.

Council Member Walker arrived here, at 10:20 a.m.

Mr. McEntee continued to review forecasting of the lumber and housing industry, impacts of single and multi-family homes, and Simpson's role in the industry. Discussion ensued regarding lumber demand, housing cycle trends, paper manufacturing, commercial forests, transportation of product, the timber industry cycle, global timber industry, bio-mass/carbon renewable fuel, and jobs in Tacoma.

Neighborhood Business District Program Review Process

At approximately 10:40 a.m., Shari Hart, CED, provided background information for the Neighborhood Business District (NBD) Association Program, including formation, engagement, membership, timeline for outreach, a formal review, and current issues. Carol Wolfe, CED, reviewed operational standards and guidelines for staff and business partners. Ms. Hart continued to review proposed staff outcomes and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding participation in the NBD Program, business association partners, ethnic diversity, including translation of documents, outreach opportunities, and stakeholder opportunities. Discussion continued regarding the Neighborhood Councils process, roles of members, business district resources, creative platforms for outreach, and alignment of the Neighborhood Councils and NBD around land-use, community policing, and capital projects. Council Member Walker requested staff review stakeholder outreach, including community outreach and providing translation, and Seattle's current outreach program. Chair Campbell and Council Member Mello

requested staff try to include additional outreach without straying too far away from their original timeline.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

Anita Gallagher, City Manager's Office, stated the next meeting is May 13, 2014 with presentations relating to the Goodwill Industries Job Training Program and Small Business Enterprise Municipal Code revisions. She stated the meeting of June 10, 2014 will have interviews for the Tacoma Arts Commission, and interviews for the City Events and Recognition Committee will be held in July. Discussion ensued regarding future Neighborhood Business District presentations.

Other Items of Interest

Discussion ensued regarding artwork on the Tacoma Dome, including the adhesive material used, the testing process, roofing consultation, and the intent of placing the Warhol Flower once the testing phase is completed.

Public Comment

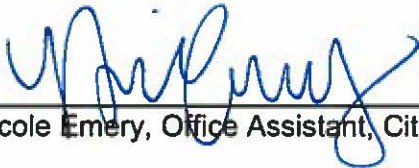
Sheree Clark, Pierce County Economic Development, spoke regarding business association programs.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



Marty Campbell, Chair



Nicole Emery, Office Assistant, City Clerk's Office



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