



City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

February 12, 2019

10:00 AM

Chair Robert Thoms, Vice Chair Conor McCarthy, Lillian Hunter,
Catherine Ushka, Chris Beale (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Thoms called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Present: 4 - Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

Approval of Minutes

1. 19-0151 Approval of the Minutes of the January 29, 2019 Meeting

MOTION: Deputy Mayor McCarthy moved to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2019 meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 4 - Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

Briefing Items

2. 19-0111 Pierce County Workforce Development Strategic Direction and Alignment Opportunity
[Linda Nguyen, CEO, Workforce Central]

At approximately 10:06 a.m., Linda Nguyen, CEO, WorkForce Central (WFC), introduced Josh Stovall, Research and Data Analyst, WFC, and Tamar Jackson, Director of Community Engagement, WFC. She provided an update on WFC, including background, the Executive Board and the Pierce County WorkForce Development Council (WDC)

leadership, and the role of WDC and chief local elected officials. She described the 2019-2020 Regional Workforce Development Strategic Plan, including the strategic focus on two bold goals and four strategic objectives. Mr. Stovall provided the data and analysis for the first phase of the bold goals, including priority communities. Mr. Jackson presented the importance of community engagement and City of Tacoma and Tacoma Public Utilities investment in workforce development. Ms. Nguyen described the WDC investments and recommendations for both short-term and long-term opportunities to align. Ms. Nguyen concluded by providing a demonstration of the WFC job seeking website.

Discussion ensued regarding how the website benefits the community and how it is being developed, development of community services, addressing homelessness, community engagement, development of mentorship and youth growth opportunities, and better alignment between the City and WFC investments.

3. 19-0112 Foss Waterway Development Authority Land Transactions
[Pat Beard, Project Manager, Community and Economic Development Department]

At approximately 11:03 a.m., Pat Beard, Project Manager, Community and Economic Development Department, introduced Norm Gollub, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Development Authority (FWDA). Mr. Gollub presented on the Proposed Upland Site Development of The Village at Foss Harbor, including the existing development area, ownership of the parcels within the development area, development plans for each of the lots, possible designs for buildings going up on the lots, and how the FWDA Board is moving forward.

Discussion ensued regarding the groundbreaking and opening of the Melanie Dressel Park. Discussion concluded on the length of the project and the work that could be done to help speed up the development.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. 19-0113 February 26 - Green Economy Update
March 12 - Cancelled

Chair Thoms stated the February 26, 2019 meeting would include an update on the Green Economy.

Other Items of Interest

Deputy Mayor McCarthy stated he attended a meeting at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) regarding workforce development and building a connection to the surrounding community. Discussion ensued on the South Sound Military and Communities Partnership (SSMCP), and the possibility of inviting members of the SSMCP and JBLM to a meeting.

Chair Thoms requested more information on the Free Trade Zones in Tacoma and the Opportunity Zone.

Discussion concluded on wrapping up how WFC is going to move forward.

Public Comment


There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.



Robert Thoms, Chair



Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office