

APPROVED
Economic Development Council
MINUTES

January 29, 2021
Meeting held virtually
7:30 A.M.

In attendance:

John Vogel, Chris Heck, Elaine Evosovic, Stacey Reibach, Anna Siefken, Valerie Fleischer, Bill Callahan, Commissioner Flynn

Commission Liaison: Andrew Flynn

Guest: None

Staff: Eric Milliron

- I. **Call to Order:** John Vogel called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **Citizen's Comments:** None.
- III. **Review of December Minutes** – EDC reviewed December Minutes. C. Heck made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by J. Vogel seconded. Approved.
- IV. **EcoDistrict Update** – Eric Milliron and Commissioner Flynn updated the EDC on exploratory meetings held with the EcoDistrict focus group and local subject experts. These meetings are providing the focus group meaningful background information on the initiative + is helping to frame next steps.
- V. **Parking v. Mobility (integration of Parking Advisory Board into EDC)** – Commissioner Flynn is exploring a more comprehensive approach to transportation/pedestrian/parking issues as they relate to our commercial zones. This thinking was introduced at high-level for consideration as the EDC develops its 2021 workplan. There is still a desire to have a member of the current Parking Advisory Board join the EDC. I am providing an excerpt from the October minutes related to this topic for the sake of clarity:
 - a. **Mobility (Parking Advisory Board Transition)** – Commissioner Flynn has expressed a desire to fold this board into the EDC to offer the municipality efficiencies as parking is directly correlated to economic development. In addition, the Commissioner wishes to see a multimodal approach to future thinking of parking/mobility. There was unanimous support within the Council. Thus, a subset of the EDC with a selected representative of parking authority shall review how the integration shall happen + fit within the EDC scope. Anna Siefken made a motion to create an action group to evaluate transition and make a recommendation to full Council. Elaine Evosovic seconded. Approved unanimously. A. Siefken, S. Reibach, Bill Callahan/Mara Dowdy, and member(s) of Parking Advisory Board shall comprise this group.
 - b. **Parking** – The EDC discussed various matters related to current, or upcoming parking discussions:
 - i. Value Pricing - Once new pay stations are installed;
 - ii. Business contributions to offset lost revenues for curbside pickup parking;
 - iii. Relocating curbside pickup spaces off Washington Road;
 - iv. Reducing rates in Uptown parking garages during Vibrant Uptown project;
- VI. **2021 Workplan (preliminary discussion)** – The EDC discussed changes to the 2021 workplan. Following are the focus areas:
 - A. **Mobility:**
 - a. Complete Streets
 - b. Vibrant Uptown – “Managing the Curb”
 - c. Transit Oriented Development (TOD)
 - B. **EcoDistrict** – Exploration and execution of an EcoDistrict designation application for Mt. Lebanon. The EDC shall focus on elements of the application related to economic development + our commercial zones;
 - C. **Economic Vitality COVID/Post-COVID** – The pandemic will radically change consumer patterns for the foreseeable future. The EDC will detail steps to proactively employ best practices in economic development policy to assist our businesses.
 - a. Technical + Financial Assistance
 - b. Zoning
 - c. Open for Business Campaign during Vibrant Uptown
- VII. **Vibrant Uptown** – This project shall enter the Construction Development Phase with Commission approval. It is still on schedule to go to bid early in March 2021.
- VIII. **Commercial Districts Updates** – Staff updated the EDC on various updates in our commercial districts.
- IX. **Adjourn** – Stacey Reibach made a motion to adjourn. John Vogel seconded. Passed.