

City of Maple Ridge
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee, held in the Bridges Boardroom, Economic Development Office, Maple Ridge on Wednesday, February 28, 2018, at 5:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Josef Lara, Chair	Community at Large
Tom Meier	Community at Large
Chrislana Gregory	Community at Large
Alex Wells	Community at Large
Oliver Perez	Community at Large

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Lino Siracusa	Staff Liaison / Manager, Economic Development
Bruce Livingstone	Business Retention and Expansion Officer
Karen Hansen	Administrative Assistant, Economic Development

REGRETS

Councillor Shymkiw	City of Maple Ridge
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1. INFORMAL DINNER, PROVIDED

2. AGENDA ADOPTION

R18-001

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda be amended to move item 5.1 Empty Position on EDC to the beginning of the meeting.

CARRIED

3. MINUTE ADOPTION

R18-002

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of September 13, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Updates and Other Business

5.1 Empty Position on EDC (item moved higher on agenda)

Mr. Siracusa reported there is one vacancy on the EDC and that a new candidate will be recommended to Council to fill this position.

4. Ongoing and New Business

4.1 EDC 2018 Business Plan

Mr. Siracusa reported the 2018 Business Plan went to Council in January. It included an allocation of \$15,000 for the Innovation event in April.

4.2 Tourism Task Force Report

The draft Tourism strategy was presented to Council and feedback was requested. The final report will be taken to council in the next month or so.

Mr. Siracusa explained that there will be \$95,000 available for tourism initiatives in 2018. The hotel room tax would be about \$70,000 but support for this from our local hoteliers does not look forthcoming.

Mr. Siracusa reported that the tourism Task Force has completed their task and he suggests that a Tourism Advisory Committee be established. This will require Council's approval.

R18-003

It was moved and seconded

That plans for establishing a Tourism Advisory Committee be undertaken.

CARRIED

4.3 Tech Task Force Report

Innovation in Emerging Cities: It was reported that the Innovation in Emerging Cities web site is up and running and there are currently 50 registrants.

Code-a-thon: There will be a launch of the Code-a-thon event on Friday, March 3, 2018.

RFEI for shared open fibre optics network: Industry will be asked to help resolve.

4.4 Home Based Business Task Force Report

The new Home Based Business by-law was adopted by Council and the work of this task force is now complete.

5. Updates and Other Business

5.2 Request by Agricultural Advisory Committee for EDC representation. Mr. Hans Lara attended a recent meeting. Discussion centered around zoning changes, areas of the city that are not good for farming and parking.

R19-004

It was moved and seconded

That Mr. Hans-Lara represent the EDC on the Agricultural Advisory Committee for a time.

CARRIED

6. Adjournment - Next Meeting, Wednesday, April 11, 2018



Chair, Josef Lara

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