

Economic Vitality Commission  
4-18-18

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH  
Economic Vitality Commission  
SUMMARY MINUTES**

April 18, 2018

City Hall Northwest  
Pickering Room

1775 12th Avenue NW  
Issaquah, WA 98027

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
Jeff Howlett Therese Garcia Kathy McCorry Karl Leigh Laura Milikan Amit Bhardwaj	Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor Keith Niven, Economic & Dev Services Director Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager Tim Dutter, Economic Development Manager

**CALL TO ORDER**

HOWLETT called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

MOVED BY LEIGH, SECONDED BY GARCIA that minutes of the Economic Vitality Commission meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**MAYOR INTRODUCTION TO COMMISSION**

Mayor Mary Lou Pauly spoke to the Commission about the Central Issaquah area and how to communicate the vision. LEIGH asked if the communication has included that the changes are about multi-family, mixed-use, 4-5 story building, not about becoming Downtown Bellevue.

The comprehensive plan is what inspired Mayor to run. She is interested in tracking growth management of jobs and housing. While on Council Land & Shore Committee, she began to receive more reports regarding the housing and job targets. Jobs are key to economic vitality. She has a concern about meeting our job growth to provide a balance community. This was one of the reasons she was an advocate for moratorium.

She believes that we need tools in place to move forward the right way. We need to tell the growth story better with graphics and other tools.

HOWLETT asked a question about traffic.

Mayor Pauly mentioned that traffic is her #1 issue/topic to address. We have unmet needs for transportation improvements. The City has a challenge to hire a transportation planner. We need to plan for the future, including light rail.

HOWLETT asked how the EVC fits in with City's strategic plan.

Mayor Pauly mentioned the Our Issaquah survey, City Hall outside ideas such as Meeting in a Box and Pop-up events.

Economic Vitality Commission  
4-18-18

Mayor Pauly updated the group that EVC meetings are not on the list of commissions to be recorded. LEIGH mentioned that he believes that because the EVC rarely conducts deliberations, this makes sense at this time.

Mayor Pauly asked if the EVC holds meetings with other Commissions. HOWLETT mentioned that the EVC has met with PPC and Human Services regarding the housing strategy.

### **CITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Davis Hayes led the discussion about the City's strategic plan effort and facilitated the "meeting in a box" exercise with commissioners.

### **MORATORIUM UPDATE**

Niven discussed ECONW case study on Affordable Housing & Update on Visions.

ECONW looked at case study to determine the impacts of inclusionary zoning on land value and redevelopment. Inclusionary zoning is an incentive in the mid-band of height. Would encourage development in the 5 – 6 stories height limit.

Discussions about visions will continue in Council for final approval in May.

### **Commission Recruitment Update**

Davis Hayes announced there were 9 applicants for the 4 vacancies. Appointed Commissioners will start their term on June 1.

### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Kari Magill, Rowley Properties and Chamber of Commerce, thanks the commissioners for all their hard work and ability to participate in the City's strategic plan discussion.

### **OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Issaquah Job Fair will be held on May 8, 2 – 5 pm at Pickering Barn. We have over 30 employers. Please help get the word out to job seekers.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, HOWLETT adjourned the meeting at 7:27 PM.

*These minutes are a brief summary of the Economic Vitality Commission meeting. For more information or clarification, please contact the Economic Development Department at 425-837-3444.*