

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Economic Vitality Commission

5:30 PM
 January 18, 2023

MINUTES

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave.
 NW, Issaquah

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Chris Reichley, Chair
 Ashwin Muthuvenkataraman, Vice Chair –
excused absence
 Thomas Brown
 Therese Garcia
 Joan Probala
 Kymberly Lee - ***excused absence***
 AJ Taylor
 Christy Garrard - ***excused absence***

Administration/Staff:

Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development
 Manager
 Farel Otieno, Economic Development
 Coordinator
 Juliana da Cruz, Economic Development
 Coordinator

Art Freas, Alternate - ***unexcused absence***
 Jennifer Larson, Alternate
 Nicoleta Mocanu, Alternate - ***excused
 absence***

CALL TO ORDER

REICHLEY called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Chair REICHLEY called up Jennifer Larson to act as a committee member rather than an alternate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) The minutes of November 16, 2022 were approved as read.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Welcome & Introductions - New Staff (I)**

Presented by:
All Commissioners and Staff

The Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

- b) **Economic Development Plan Update (D)**

Presented by:
Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager

Economic Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes presented on the process for creating the new Economic Development Plan. The Commission discussed the Request for Qualifications scope language, reviewed the proposed tasks for the consultant, and reviewed the changes in the City since the last ED plan.

REPORTS

- a) **Industry Trends, Business Openings & Closures (I)**
Presented by: Chris Reichley, Economic Vitality Commission Chair

The Commission reviewed business trends and openings.

- b) **Business Leadership Forum Planning Committee Report (I)**
Presented by:
Kym Lee, Economic Vitality Commissioner

The Business Forum meeting subcommittee gave a report on the forum. The next subcommittee meeting will solidify the time and location.

- c) **City Council Report (I)**
Presented by:
Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager

Economic Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes provided the City Council Report, encouraged Commission members to share feedback on Title 18 if they hear feedback from businesses.

- d) **2023 Schedule (I)**
Presented by:
Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager

The Commission reviewed the EVC Schedule and topics for future meetings, suggested a Vision Partners panel for a future meeting. Other suggestions include a presentation from DIA or a commercial real estate agent.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 15, 2023.

INQUIRIES

Please contact Jen Davis Hayes at (425) 837-3414 or jenh@issaquahwa.gov.

(A) Action, (D) Discussion, (I) Information