



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Thursday - March 20, 2014

PLACE: El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue
Hillside Conference Room

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

I. Roll Call

Economic Development Committee Members Present: Ann Lehman, Mark Figone, Jean Shrem, Wendy Horng Brawer, Vikram Bajaj

Staff: Dwayne Dalman

Council Liaison: Rebecca Benassini

Absent: Tess Taylor

II. Public Comment: Nicholas Arzio and Scott Kagawa in attendance.

III. Approved minutes from meeting of December 19, 2013 and February 20, 2014

Committee unanimously approved December 19, 2013 minutes. Committee also approved February 20, 2014 minutes subject to incorporation of El Cerrito Strategic sites document prepared by Wendy Horng Brawer.

IV. Oral Communications

Staff Update – Dalman gave a brief overview of potential development activity including potential projects at both BART stations. Creekside project is moving forward with Design Review. Ohlone Gardens project is moving forward with Plan Check and site work. Development Agreement process still moving forward for residential project planned for Del Norte BART station site owned by the MSC. Dalman discussed new updates on building vacancies in town and Shrem discussed thoughts of upturn in housing values in town.

V. Discussion of Economic Development Committee Activities

Review draft goals and strategies of Economic Development Action Plan

Dalman and committee discussed first four goals/strategies of the Economic Development Action Plan as follows and shown on attachments:

Goal 1 – Leverage opportunities with progressive and motivated businesses and property owners

Goal 2 – Increase community engagement in Economic Development activities

Goal 3 – Identify ways to increase place –making at vital commercial districts

Goal 4 – Assist in effort to make permitting process business friendly

VI. Set Next Agenda

At the next meeting, the committee will discuss the following items:

1. Discuss the remaining four goals, strategies and time frames for the Economic Development Action Plan

VII. Adjourned to Next Meeting - April 17, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm