

**Economic Development Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 4, 2016**

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- Members Present:** Joe Mirra, Chairman  
Gary Fappiano  
Mark Gingras  
Rosemarie Preneta  
Jim Wolfe
- Members Absent:** Tom Collette  
Dick Nunn, Vice-Chair
- Others Present:** Don Roe, Ec. Dev. Coordinator  
Tim Ryan, Ec. Dev. Specialist  
Lynn Wolff, Secretary  
Ginny Kozlowski, REX  
Barbara Malmberg, REX  
Rohit Sharma, REX  
Joe Gouveia, Gouveia Vineyards  
Jeffrey Hernandez, ION Bank  
Richard McHugh  
Cathy Ramirez  
Joshua Ramirez  
Al Ruggiero, Paradise Hills Vineyard & Winery  
Brenda Ruggiero, Paradise Hills Vineyard & Winery

Chairman Joe Mirra called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:30 p.m.

**3. Discussion and Possible Action on Regular Meeting Minutes dated December 7, 2015 – Mark Gingras made a motion to approve the minutes as drafted; Jim Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.**

**1. Presentation by Ms. Ginny Kozlowski, REX, of 2013-18 CEDS – Ginny Kozlowski, Barbara Malmberg and Rohit Sharma from REX introduced themselves to the EDC and made a presentation about the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and development activities in Rosemarie Preneta arrived at 6:40 p.m. the region. The EDC thanked REX for their presentation. The Power Point presentation will be forwarded to the EDC.**

**2. Election of Officers – Jim Wolfe made a motion to table the election of officers; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion passed.**

46 In deference to the guests in attendance, the EDC agreed to move up on the agenda item 5, P&Z  
47 Liaison, Discussion and Possible Action re: pending applications to PZC.

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## 49 **5. Committee Reports**

### 50 • **P&Z Liaison –**

51 ➤ Discussion and possible action re: pending applications before PZC –

52 a. Members discussed with Mr. Ruggiero, Ms. Ruggiero and Mr. Gouveia the language in  
53 the proposed amendment to Article 4, Section E.3 of the Zoning Regulations that will  
54 be discussed at an upcoming Planning & Zoning meeting (*copy attached*). **Jim Wolfe**  
55 **made a motion that the EDC support this application with suggested**  
56 **deletions/changes as discussed; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By**  
57 **unanimous vote, the motion was approved.** Jim Wolfe said he will attend the  
58 Planning & Zoning meeting when this matter is discussed and requested that a letter  
59 be prepared to PZC outlining the EDC's support. *Staff will prepare this letter and send*  
60 *a copy to Mr. Ruggiero and Mr. Gouveia.*

61 b. Members discussed another application concerning the current Davenport facility that  
62 will come before the PZC in the near future. **Jim Wolfe made a motion that the EDC**  
63 **support the proposed zoning change for the current Davenport facility on**  
64 **Washington Street; Gary Fappiano seconded the motion. By unanimous vote,**  
65 **the motion passed.**

66 ➤ Update on: Plan of Conservation & Development – Jim Wolfe distributed some  
67 information about POCD and discussed work that will continue after the update is  
68 completed. Jim felt that a continuing presence by an EDC member on any post-POCD  
69 committee would be helpful; he volunteered to continue representing the EDC. **Mark**  
70 **Gingras made a motion that Jim Wolfe continue to represent the EDC on post-POCD**  
71 **committees; Gary Fappiano seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion**  
72 **carried.**

73 ➤ Discussion re: downtown – There was no update this month.

### 74 • **Marketing –**

75 ➤ Report re: CERC – Mark Gingras said that the Committee will develop an “elevator  
76 speech” based on a Sandler Sales Training workshop held at CERC. Once finalized, this  
77 short talk about the Town would be used by all Commissioners to promote the Town.  
78 Once the Committee completes its draft, it will be brought to the EDC for final approval.

79 ➤ Follow up on GIS – Don Roe suggested that EDC members meet with the Mayor to  
80 discuss GIS. A meeting in early February with the Mayor will be scheduled.

81 ➤ Next meeting – February 3, 2016.

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- **Retention/Incentives** – Gary Fappiano said the Committee met on December 18 and discussed changing how the EDC does company visits. Instead of meeting with individual companies, the Committee proposed cluster meetings with companies who are similar in some way. *Staff was asked to work on arranging this type of meeting.* The Committee also discussed their work on the incentive programs, which expire later this year.

- Follow-up re: Bristol-Myers Squibb – Staff continues to be in regular contact with BMS staff.
- Next meeting – No meeting date was set.

4. **Review of Monthly Expenditure Reports** – No comments were made on the November report.

6. **Discussion on local vendor preference** – Mark Gingras made a motion to table this item; Gary Fappiano seconded the motion. **By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

7. **Chairman’s report** – No report.

8. **Staff reports/regional matters** – Tim Ryan distributed and reviewed the December report (*copy attached*). Members requested that, if possible, a copy of the report be included with the agenda; *staff will do this whenever possible.*

Don Roe said the letter regarding the addition of alternates to the Commission was sent to the Mayor in mid-December. It was agreed to discuss this topic at the meeting with the Mayor in February.

9. **Dates to Remember** – Joe Mirra reminded the EDC about the State of the Town on January 25. He is pleased so far with the number of responses from invited Town businesses.

10. **Community Involvement** – No report.

**There being no further business, Jim Wolfe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.; Rosemarie Preneta seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Wolff, Secretary

Attachments