

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Adopted Thursday, February 7, 2019

Thursday, January 3, 2019

6:00 p.m.

Lompoc City Council Chambers

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jeremy Ball, Committee Chair

Chelsea Cochran, Vice Chair

Lisa Andre – excused

Ed Braxton

Henry Gallina

Chuck Madson

Megan Raff – excused

Rob Traylor

Tim Becker

Naishadh Buch – excused

DeWayne Holmdahl

Tina Mercer – absent

Cecilia Ramos

Clay Turner – absent

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Brandon Bridge

Robert Utterbach

Gilda Cordova

Amber Wilson

STAFF:

Jasmine McGinty, Development Programs Specialist

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Member Gallina discussed a novel entitled “Community” by Peter Block and encouraged the EDC to read it. Member Braxton gave an update on LVMC’s takeover of Sansum Clinic as escrow was completed January 2, 2019. He gave an overview of why LVMC took over the clinic and shared enthusiasm about plans for Lompoc Health. The nine million dollar transaction saved over 50 jobs in Lompoc. One of the goals with this was also to retain more services in Lompoc for local residents so that they do not have to drive out of town to obtain health services. The healthcare district now employs over 800 people, and most of them live in the 93436 zip code.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Ms. McGinty reported on the following recent development activity:

- There will be a special City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 8th to discuss the Council vacancy, as to how they wish to fill that position. She also shared that she will share any upcoming budget workshop updates with the EDC members.

AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Approval of Minutes – November 1, 2018

MOTION: It was moved by Member Traylor and seconded by Member Braxton that the November 1, 2018 minutes were approved.

VOTE: The motion was passed on a unanimous voice vote.

B. Vision Statement – adopted October 3, 2014

“Our Vision statement is to develop a strong positive image which attracts and retains business and visitors and residents that achieves economic vitality in the Lompoc Valley.”

C. Subcommittee Reports

1. Events

Chair Ball announced the planning of the second Pathways to Preparedness event that will be taking place on April 25, 2019 at the Dick DeWees Center. He noted that the big topic will be to continue to connect the dots between the education, business community and the City. The next subcommittee meeting will be January 22nd at 10:30 a.m. at City Hall. They are working on the details of the breakfast sponsorship as well as the keynote speaker.

2. EVA/ Lompoc Record

Chair Ball mentioned they will be working on an article to feature the Lompoc Theatre Project for the next Lompoc Record article on Sunday, January 6th. Ms. McGinty acknowledged that the other quarter four EVA winner was 805 Chophouse, and has since then closed. The EVA subcommittee has yet to award quarter one 2019 awards.

3. Business- Friendly Practices

Chair Ball opened discussion on this topic and encouraged the EDC to begin brainstorming ways to jump-start this subcommittee. Member Wilson mentioned there was approximately 80 respondents to the Chamber of Commerce business survey. She noted the subcommittee can compile the responses and use them to brainstorm ways to improve business processes at City Hall.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Member Holmdahl stated he believes there needs to be better positive communication as to what the City is doing to the public. There was a general discussion about positive promotion of the City amongst the EDC. Member Ball mentioned that Central Coast Specialty Foods was moving forward on their move to Old Town Lompoc. He stated they will be moving into the Sleep Shop building on South H Street. Member Becker asked if there was any figures on hotel occupancy rates from the launches in 2018. Member Cordova stated there was an increase in TOT and sales tax after the launches and the opening of the Hilton Garden Inn. She noted an increase in one million dollars in revenue in 2018. There was a general discussion about the importance of the launches and tourism in Lompoc.

Member Gallina introduced an item that he would like to see on a future agenda as a topic for discussion. He mentioned the importance of the school district and wanted to discuss ways to improve the school district as that is a driver of bringing people into town to live here. Member Braxton and Chair Ball added some input on this topic and discussed ways we should look at the history of the deterioration of Lompoc's schools as well as creating a plan for the future on what we can do to improve the school district.

STAFF & COMMITTEE REQUESTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS - None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

ADJOURN – Chair Ball adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.