

COVINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

City Council Chambers
16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100
Covington, WA 98042
253-480-2400

MINUTES Thursday, March 26, 2015

Jeff Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Members Present: Jeff Wagner, Zach Steele, Ed Cook, Steve Pand, Laura Roth

Arrived Late: Krista Bates, Lisa Agron, Sherry Corbey

Members Absent: Hugh Kodama, Kevin Holland

Also Present: Regan Bolli, Kathryn Groves

Approval of Minutes from February 26, 2015:

5 members in attendance, quorum not reached. Not able to vote on minutes at this time.

Announcements:

Chamber – Kathryn Groves, Chamber Manager

- New member Wendy's had their grand opening and ribbon cutting last week, set companywide record for opening week.
- Dinner & Auction was very successful, about 100 attendees and over \$18,000 raised.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Luncheon April 9, representatives from EWU discussing higher education.
 - After Hours April 16, co-hosted by Alpine Mortgage and Schram & Associates.

Approval of Minutes from February 26, 2015:

6 members now in attendance, quorum reached. Moved and seconded to approve minutes.

Minutes approved 6-0.

Announcements continued:

City of Covington – Regan Bolli.

- Chick-fil-A has worked out design issues with former Burger King location.
- Vacant site on Covington Way across from Airstream, proposed retail site with 3 buildings, all buildings already 100% leased.
- Former Weber Nursery meeting regarding turning into assisted living facility.

Speaker: John Napier, Divisional Chief, Kent Fire Department

- Presented brief overview of organizational structure, history, codes and standards.
- Discussed developmental review and inspection process and business Inspection process. Annual business inspections help maintain low insurance rating.
- Fire investigation program, investigations spiked to 22 in 2014, previously 9 to 10. Clearance rate for incendiary fires is double the national average.
- Business and community emergency planning and response education programs offered.

- Reviewed the department's 2015 work plan.

Speaker: Oliver Johnston, Play Unplugged (via conference call)

- YouTube video was shown explaining program then Q&A with CEDC members.
- Discussion on the program and the possibility of implementing this year. It was decided there is not enough time to have the program ready by Memorial Day this year. Would like to have more time to get schools, businesses and community groups on board so program will be successful and start program next year.

Discussion on 2015 CEDC Initiatives:

- Collaborating Across Organizations: Joint meeting with CEDC, the Chamber of Commerce, and City Council is scheduled for May 12, 2015. CEDC Initiative committees will each give a brief presentation. CEDC would like more direction from the Chamber and City Council on what they would like CEDC to achieve.
- Healthy Community: No report.
- Business Expansion and Education: Senator Joe Fain confirmed as the third speaker for the Spring Business Breakfast. Business Survey will be sent out via email tomorrow.
- Branding (Steve): The City Council approved additional funds to purchase promotional items to continue the rollout of the new logo. There was disagreement at the last City Council Meeting over when the new logo should be used and when city seal should be used. The issue will be discussed at the April 28, 2015 City Council Meeting. It was recommended that a CEDC member speak at the meeting. This will be discussed further at the April 23 CEDC meeting.

Comments:

- Sherry: Sears was number one in the nation again for their Friends and Family event.
- Jeff: Several businesses have set companywide records during the opening week of their Covington locations.

Next Meeting: April 23, 2015 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

CEDC Members

Zach Steele, Co-Chair
Hugh Kodama
Krista Bates
Lisa Agron
Sherry Corbey

Jeff Wagner, Co-Chair
Kevin Holland
Laura Roth
Steven Pand
Ed Cooke

Staff

Regan Bolli, City Manager
Kathryn Groves, Covington Chamber of Commerce Manager