

COVINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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

MINUTES Thursday, July 23, 2015

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

Members Present: Zach Steele, Jeff Wagner, Laura Roth, Ed Cook, Lisa Agron, Krista Bates, Hugh Kodama

Members Absent: Sherry Corbey, Kevin Holland, Steve Pand

Also Present: Kathryn Groves, Regan Bolli (arrived late)

Approval of Minutes from May 28, 2015:

Motion by Ed to approve the minutes, seconded by Laura. Motion passed 7-0

Chamber Announcements – Kathryn Groves, Chamber Manager

- Board approved new CEDC candidates at last meeting: Krista and Zach will be returning for another term, Josh Lyons will be taking Hugh's place. Sherry has resigned so we will be selecting a candidate to replace her at the next board meeting.
- VIP Night at the Ballgame will be August 6th, tickets and sponsorships now on sale.
- Still working on promoting the new Covington Community App.

Discussion on the Direction of CEDC

- What have we accomplished in the past?
 - Economic Development element for the Comprehensive Plan
 - Target Covington (2003)
 - Destination Covington (2010)
 - Branding (2014)
- Why do we exist? What are we trying to accomplish? Ideas discussed include:
 - Communicating with the community, generating awareness and support for growth, define and communicate what "growing towards greatness" means.
 - Communicating with commercial developers and businesses regarding what Covington has to offer, such as through a value proposition.
 - Discussing on whether more direction should come from the city on ideas they would like CEDC to accomplish, or whether CEDC should be more of a "Think Tank" bringing ideas and recommendations to city council.
 - What makes Covington a "Destination City" and how can we enhance that and help bring people to the area to support our local economy?
- Next Meeting be prepared to conduct a SWOT Analysis.

City Announcements – Regan Bolli, City Manager:

- Marshalls still the only tenant announced for Covington Way Center.

- Assisted living facility on Wax Road is working on permitting.
- Legislatively, this has been one of the best years the city has seen with \$5.7 million going towards parks and \$37 million going towards transportation projects in Covington.
- Lakepointe is hoping to push funding for 204th up so they can begin construction sooner. Currently scheduled to receive the first portion of funding in the 2017-2019 budget.

Comments:

- Hugh: Covington still needs to think about what they want to be when they grow up and what it means to be a community.
- Krista: New community event happening this summer, Sausage and Cider Fest August 22nd at Covington Community Park.
- Jeff: Would like to thank Hugh for all service to CEDC, this will be his last meeting.

Next Meeting: August 27, 2015 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

CEDC Members

Zach Steele, Co-Chair

Hugh Kodama

Krista Bates

Lisa Agron

Sherry Corbey (resigned today)

Jeff Wagner, Co-Chair

Kevin Holland

Laura Roth

Steven Pand

Ed Cooke

Staff

Regan Bolli, City Manager

Kathryn Groves, Covington Chamber of Commerce Manager