

May 17, 2011 Special Joint Study Session with Covington Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Covington Economic Development Council
Approved: June 14, 2011

City of Covington
City Council Special Joint Study Session with Covington Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Covington Economic Development Council
Tuesday, May 17, 2011

(This meeting was recorded and will be retained for a period of six years from the date of the meeting).

The Special Joint Study Session with the Covington Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Covington Economic Development Council was called to order in the City Council Chambers, 16720 SE 271st Street, Suite 100, Covington, Washington, Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at 6:36 p.m., with Mayor Harto presiding.

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Margaret Harto, Mark Lanza, David Lucavish, Marlla Mhoon, Jim Scott, Wayne Snoey, and Jeff Wagner.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Jennifer Gilbert, Jim Hutchinson, Craig Nickel, Rick Oliveira, Jessica Oliver, Tamara Paul, and Cathy Wahlin.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Kaye Eilers, Jennifer Gaines, Trey Hovinga, and Scott Tenner.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Hugh Kodama, Jeff Wagner, Paul Bernal, Jennifer Gilbert, Kevin Holland, Jim Hutchinson, Rick Oliveira, and Steven Pand.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCILMEMBER ABSENT:

Doug Mergenthaler and Edwin Cook.

STAFF PRESENT:

Derek Matheson, City Manager; Richard Hart, Community Development Director; and Sharon Scott, City Clerk/Executive Assistant.

Mayor Margaret Harto called the study session to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Action: There was Council consensus to approve the agenda.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Chamber Update.

Covington Chamber of Commerce Chair Rick Oliveira gave the report on the financial status and activities of the Chamber.

Several questions were asked, and Mr. Oliveira provided responses.

2. CEDC Work Plan Update.

Covington Economic Development Council Co-Chair Hugh Kodama gave the report on the work plan for CEDC. Plans included efforts to promote Covington, business retention and bringing in new businesses, reviewing economic trends, Destination Covington, Covington Business Expo, and several other ideas.

3. Destination Covington Update.

City Manager Derek Matheson gave the report on Destination Covington including background information on previous events and the goals of this event. Mr. Matheson noted the event is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2011, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Covington City Hall. Mr. Matheson also mentioned the event is by invitation only and will include approximately 60 to 75 developers, property owners, brokers, trade groups representing those groups, target businesses, government, utilities, and media.

Group members offered comments and suggestions. Questions were asked by group members, and Mr. Matheson provided responses.

4. Value Proposition Discussion.

CEDC Member Paul Bernal gave the presentation on this item. Mr. Bernal indicated that the information presented was an overview of the type of material that could be used at the Destination Covington event. Mr. Bernal reviewed the presentation noting the historical perspective of the city; showing the region and how the city is centrally located; and mentioning the positive features of the city including an award winning community pool, senior living downtown, parks, community sports, community events, a gateway to recreation, easy access to SR 18, golf courses, motor sports, etc.

There was discussion among members and comments were provided.

The groups agreed to meet again the first week in September.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Harto called for public comments.

There being no comments, Mayor Harto closed the public comment period.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Prepared by:

Submitted by:

Joan Michaud
Deputy City Clerk

Sharon Scott
City Clerk