

City of Maple Ridge
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee, held in the
Bridges Boardroom, Economic Development Office, Maple Ridge on Wednesday,
September 13, 2017 at 5:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Josef Lara, Chair	Community at Large
Tom Meier	Community at Large
Chrislana Gregory	Community at Large
Alex Wells	Community at Large
Nicole Archer	Community at Large
Councillor Shymkiw	City of Maple Ridge

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Lino Siracusa	Staff Liaison / Manager Economic Development
Karen Hansen	Administrative Assistant, Economic Development

REGRETS

Oliver Perez	Community at Large
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1. INFORMAL DINNER, PROVIDED

2. CALL TO ORDER, Josef Hans Lara

There being a quorum present the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm.

3. AGENDA ADOPTION

R17-001

It was moved and seconded

That the Agenda be amended to add item 4.6 Renewal of EAC participation for another term and to be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

4. MINUTE ADOPTION

R17-002

It was moved and seconded

That the Minutes of May 3, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. ONGOING AND NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Innovation Week, Lino Siracusa

A meeting was held in the MP's office with the Technology Task Force. Discussion centered on the possibility of holding a 1-2 day event with local business and partners in Technology. The idea would be to invite Technology companies as well as local businesses and youth to bring forward new innovations that could be used in Maple Ridge. Lino had further discussions about this idea with Ruby Campbell who shared her experience with last year's Innovation week held in New Westminster and the event coming up again this year. A draft schedule of events

for the New Westminster event was shared in order to provide a sample of the types of speakers, workshops and activities to include. Due to the ACT being heavily booked, only one day was available during the preferred time period. April 4, 2018, from 8 am to 2:00 pm, has been reserved for a one day Innovation event.

R17-003

It was moved and seconded

That we hold an Innovation Event in Maple Ridge.

CARRIED

5.2 EDC 2018 Business Plan

R17-004

It was moved and seconded

That the action items from the Task Forces be included in the business plan.

CARRIED

5.3 Tourism Task Force

Ms. Archer provided a summary of the recent activities of the Tourism Task Force. Since the Tourism Strategy was met with a mixed reception when it was presented in March, the Tourism Task Force has been busy with several different initiatives. Two fora took place back in June. Different types of tourism such as agricultural, recreational, outdoor, cultural, and cycling were discussed at these fora and additional community engagement took place at the Haney Farmer's Market.

The tourism consultants are working with the local hoteliers on the proposal to introduce the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) and the draft tourism strategy. The goal is to present an updated draft tourism strategy to council in November.

5.4 Tech Task Force,

Joseph Lara and Todd Kane are assisting the City in developing an RFI.

5.5 Home Based Business Task Force

The Task Force will be holding their Open House with regards to the changes in the Home Based Business By-law on September 13th. An expansion of the types of businesses, size of the floor area and the number employees are a few of the regulations being recommended.

5.6 Renewal of EDC committee

The positions on the EDC committee will be advertised in the fall. Everyone was asking to give thought to whether they would like to continue for another term.

6. Updates and other Business - Nil

7. Adjournment - Next Meeting, Wednesday, November 15th, 2017