



MINUTES

Economic Development Commission
22350 S. Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek, AZ
Historic Town Hall
August 28, 2019
7:30 am

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Lee Ester called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Commission Members present: Lee Ester, Chair; Brian McKean; Bill Smith; Chris Clark; Gordon Mortensen; Steve Sossaman; Courtney Kleinebreil; Derek Neighbors; Perry Berry; Warde Nichols; Grant Tayrien

Town Staff: Doreen Cott, Economic Development Director; Jennifer Lindley, Downtown Development Manager; Erik Swanson, Principal Planner; Kyle Barichello, Planner II; Rob Sachs, Real Estate Coordinator; Sandy McGeorge, Management Assistant II; Joy Maglione, Town Clerk Assistant

Absent Members: Shane Randall, Vice Chair; Richard Graham; Carson Brown; Mark Schnepf; Jason Barney; Perry Rea; Council Member Turley; Council Member Oliphant

2. Introductions & Announcements

None.

3. Public Comment:

None

4. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Consideration and possible approval of the June 26, 2019 minutes.

Motion to approve the June 26, 2019 minutes as presented.

1st: Grant Tayrien

2nd: Gordon Mortensen

Vote: Approved unanimously

B. Presentation on Water Resource Planning in the Valley, Colette Moore with SRP

Chair Lee Ester introduced Colette Moore with SRP. Ms. Moore gave a brief background on the history of water use in Arizona. She addressed concerns

about water supplies and outlined details of the Assured Water Supply Program. The program forces water planning to take place before development can occur and preserves groundwater resources. She discussed diverse water supply options to meet demands, watershed management and reclaimed water uses in Arizona now and going forward.

C. Update on Gangplank Queen Creek

Derek Neighbors provided an overview on how Gangplank is used by the community; how it helps businesses grow; the classes that are offered and the access to equipment that is available. He gave examples of collaboration and community support and said a broad age range of members use Gangplank.

Mr. Neighbors reported a 15% increase in volume of visitors per week visiting Gangplank. He spotlighted some Gangplank members and how they use the space. Mr. Neighbors introduced Lisa Dalton of Candoable and Zach Johnson of Waas Solutions and they shared their small business success stories and how Gangplank has helped them.

Ms. Cott thanked Mr. Neighbors and the attendees. It was suggested that the presentation be given to schools and town staff to promote a better understanding of Gangplank.

D. Presentation on State Land Annexation and Zoning

This item was continued.

E. Presentation on the Economic Development website

Downtown Development Manager Jennifer Lindley gave an update on the new website for Economic Development. She said it is geared toward developers and investors. The URL is investqc.com and postcards will be going out soon to promote the new site. Ms. Lindley asked the Commission to go on the site and provide feedback for relevant information.

F. Summary of current events – Reports from Chair, Commission Members and Economic Development staff.

Ms. Lindley reported on the following events:

- The RFP for the town owned land had one response and the town is not moving forward at this time. Staff will look for direction from Town Council for Sites 1, 2, and 3.
- Phoenix East Valley Entrepreneur Week is the second week of February 2020 and a key group of businesses owners will be participating.
- Queen Creek will have a booth at the upcoming International Council of Shopping Centers Conference featuring a “Step into QC” sock giveaway.

- Queen Creek is presenting a session on the Downtown Core Zoning & Design Guidelines at the AZ Planning Conference in Oro Valley.
- Jennifer Lindley is a panelist on “Empower Collaborations & Partnership between Municipalities and BIDS” at the International Downtown Association conference in Baltimore next month.
- Carson Brown will be the GPEC Board representative and will be a liaison on Economic Development Commission (EDC) instead of a voting member. Jason Barney will now be a voting member on EDC.

Commissioner Perry Berry gave updates from the QC Unified School District:

- Two new schools opened (Eastmark High School and Silver Valley Elementary) and enrollment exceeded expectations
- Lead Out Loud Conference at Queen Creek Performing Arts Center – September 12, 2019
- Queen Creek Scholarship Education Foundation Golf Tournament at Trilogy Golf Course - September 27, 2019
- QCUSD received a \$170K grant from the Governor’s Office for social workers
- QCUSD received the Champion of Energy Award for efficiency from SRP

5. Announcements

None.

6. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

Lee Ester, Chair
Economic Development Commission

Prepared by:

Joy Maglione
Town Clerk Assistant

PASSED AND APPROVED ON: September 25, 2019