



## MINUTES

**Economic Development Commission**  
San Tan Conference Room  
22358 S. Ellsworth Rd, Queen Creek  
November 30, 2022  
7:30 a.m.

### 1. Call to Order and Introductions

Grant Tayrien called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m.

Commission Members present (in person): Grant Tayrien, Chair; Chris Clark; Perry Berry; Nate Knight; Aric Bopp; Troy Young; Marc Valenzuela; Jenna Kahl (Google Meet); Nancy Hormann; Brent White (Google Meet); Council Member Oliphant

Absent Members: Shane Randall; Jason Barney; Mark Schnepf; Perry Rea; Derek Neighbors; Brian McKean; Mark Schnepf; Brian McKean; Mayor-Elect Wheatley

Staff present: Doreen Cott, Economic Development Director; Jennifer Lindley, Downtown Development Manager (Google Meet); Marissa Garnett, Economic Development Coordinator; John Ahumada, Economic Development Specialist; Erik Swanson, Planning Administrator; Steven Ester, Planner (Google Meet); Joy Maglione, Deputy Town Clerk

### 2. Public Comment:

None.

### 3. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Consideration and possible approval of the September 28, 2022 minutes

**Motion to approve the September 28, 2022 minutes as presented.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Nancy Hormann**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Nate Knight**

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

B. Discussion and possible approval of the Façade Improvement Application for the property located at 20515 E Ocotillo Rd, Queen Creek

Downtown Development Manager Jennifer Lindley introduced the Façade Improvement Application for 20515 E. Ocotillo Road. She said the applicant received a \$20,000 reimbursement from the program in 2021, with the intention of coming back for a second

application, as allowed per program guidelines. Ms. Lindley introduced applicant Andrew Augustyniak and noted that his project is a low intense use.

Mr. Augustyniak gave an overview of his project, which is an indoor/outdoor studio available to rent for photographers, families and businesses. He said there is only about six or seven facilities like this in the East Valley and there is none with outdoor space. He showed renderings of his project and said it will have a clean simple modern Spanish look and will complement Downtown Queen Creek.

**Applicant: Andrew & Brittany Augustyniak – 20515 E Ocotillo Rd**

**Business Name: Desert Studio AZ**

- **Paver driveway**
- **Windows & doors**
- **Roofing**

**Proposed Request \$43,330.00**

**Max Allowed Reimbursement: \$20,000**

Ms. Lindley explained that the renovation exceeded the match; therefore, some of the forward street facing items were selected for consideration. She said the quotes received for the roof and pavers were both similar in cost. Ms. Lindley said the applicant would still need Site Plan approval from the Town and the Notice to Proceed will be sent based on needed permits.

There were no questions from the Commission.

**Motion to approve Facade Improvement Application for Andrew Augustyniak up to the \$20K reimbursement.**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Nancy Hormann**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Perry Berry**

**Vote: Approved unanimously**

C. Presentation and overview of the Queen Creek Police Department

Police Chief Randy Brice provided an overview of Queen Creek Police Department (QCPD) that launched on January 11, 2022. He explained some of the challenges of building a police department from scratch in a short time period.

He said the Queen Creek team was handpicked with a focus on community connection. Chief Brice outlined the four functions that are a primary focus:

- **Support Services (including records requests)**
- **Patrol**
- **Special Operations**
- **Investigations**

Chief Brice discussed the QCPD Policing Program, which focuses on community policing, technology, resilience and officer wellness. He discussed the low crime rates in Queen Creek and said the department is very data driven and uses a proactive policing approach. Chief Brice discussed patrols and the different zones in Queen Creek and reported on the top crimes, calls for service and gave examples of community involvement from the department.

The Commissioners thanked Chief Brice for the informative presentation and for their service to the Town.

#### D. Summary of current events - Reports from Chair, Commission Members and Economic Development staff

Economic Development Director Doreen Cott provided the following updates:

- Introduction and welcome of new team member John Ahumada, Economic Development Specialist
- Commissioner Gordon Mortensen recently resigned from EDC
- Council Member Oliphant and Ms. Cott recently toured the ARISE Vet Hospital. The ribbon cutting will be today, Nov 30, at 11:00 a.m. and they will open soon
- The second hotel will break ground in 2023
- Cowboy Christmas at Horseshoe Park is a free event held Dec 9-10 with vendors, food trucks and the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo
- Costco is on track for a January opening

Commissioners Young and Clark provided information on the Christmas Parade and Holiday Festival with a tree lighting on Saturday, December 3.

Commissioner Berry said the ribbon cutting for Crismon High is Dec 12 at 4 pm; Eastmark High School's football team won the State Championship; Facebook Meta donated \$50K to the robotic program; and \$10K in Teacher Grants were received to help with classroom resources.

#### 4. **Announcements**

None.

#### 5. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

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Grant Tayrien, Chair  
Economic Development Commission

ATTEST:

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Joy Maglione  
Deputy Town Clerk

I, Joy Maglione, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the November 30, 2022 Economic Development Commission. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Passed and approved on: January 25, 2023