

CITY OF ST. CLOUD

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1300 Ninth Street, Building A – 1st Floor,
Growth Management Conference Room
Wednesday, January 18th, 2023 - 5:00 pm

MINUTES

I. OPENING BUSINESS

Chair Richard “Trevor” Estill called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

<u>Members</u>	<u>Present/Absent</u>
Paula Stark (Seat #1)	Excused Absence
Susan Abshire (Seat #2)	Present
Thomas Lord, Vice Chair (Seat #3)	Present
Karl Theobald (Seat #4)	Present
Daniel Minckler (Seat #5)	Resigned
Maureen McNamee-Cook (Seat #6)	Unexcused Absence
Richard “Trevor” Estill, Chair (Seat #7)	Present
Robert Collins (Ex Officio Member)	Unexcused Absence

Guest: Mr. Casey Barnes, Vice President of Business Development – Orlando Economic Partnership (via phone).

Staff Present:

Antranette Forbes, Economic Development Director
Massiel Rivas, Recording Secretary

c. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from September 21st, 2022, by Vice Chair Lord and seconded by Member Abshire. All members voted aye; motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS

a. Vacated Seat #6 At Large

Ms. Forbes informed the board members about the recruiting process for the new EDAC members. She further explained that Member McNamee-Cook had not attended a meeting all year and Member Minckler has resigned due to relocation out of state.

Member Theobald made a motion to replace the two vacated new positions. Vice Chair Lord seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion passed.

Member Theobald asked if Member Stark will be eligible to continue as a EDAC board member since she is currently a State Representative.

Ms. Forbes responded that she would verify with City Attorney and advise the board members.

III. New Business

a. Target Industry Incentives

Ms. Forbes presented a summary of the new tax rebate incentive program to the board members. She also introduced Mr. Casey Barnes, Vice President of Business Development, Orlando Economic Partnership.

Mr. Barnes explained the importance of these target industry incentives in the recruitment of new businesses in St. Cloud. He also mentioned that these incentives encourage development that brings revenue into the community.

Mr. Theobald inquired about this program in comparison of the existing incentive program.

Ms. Forbes reminded Mr. Barnes that she is proposing this program to be stackable.

Mr. Barnes mentioned that this program will help to solve the challenge of the recruiting targeted industries with a huge capital investment.

Member Theobald asked about the certified sites.

Mr. Barnes stated that the companies focus on three categories when considering large development projects: speed, cost, and risk.

Member Theobald made a motion for the city to approve the proposed incentives items. Vice chair Lord seconded the motion. All members voted aye; motion passed.

b. Q4 2022 Workforce Data

Ms. Forbes provided a brief update on the population increase and the businesses characteristics of the community.

Chair Estill suggested to reach out to Mr. Ricky Booth, Osceola County Commissioner, to invite him to the next meeting and discuss these industry items.

Member Theobald also suggested to invite the new City Manager to the next meeting to discuss these items and facilitate them to the City Council.

Ms. Forbes requested to the board members that the City Manager should attend the next meeting to discuss future land uses. The Board agreed.

c. Greater St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee Report

Ms. Forbes informed the Board that Mr. Dirk Webb, St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce President, had an excused absence.

d. St. Cloud Main Street Economic Restructuring Committee Report

Chair Estill informed that Ms. Paula Stark, St. Cloud Main Street Executive Director, had an excused absence.

Member Abshire asked about the status of the hotel process.

Ms. Forbes provided a brief update on the hotel construction to the board members.
Vice Chair Lord inquired about the hotel funding agreement process.
Ms. Forbes provided an update on the proposed agreement to date.

IV. STAFF REPORT/UPDATE

Ms. Forbes provided a brief update on the field trip to visit the Seaplane Base - City of Tavares with City Council and invited EDAC members to attend.
Mr. Theobald suggested EDAC provide a staff report to discuss pending items at least twice a year.
Ms. Forbes informed the committee that meetings will now be on Wednesday every other month and a revised calendar will be sent to the members.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Richard “Trevor” Estill adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Richard “Trevor” Estill, Chair

Date

Massiel Rivas, Recording Secretary

Date