

Minutes
San Juan Bautista Economic Development Citizens Advisory Committee
June 15, 2022

Chairperson Heliena Walton called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM and conducted the roll call as follows:

Present: Chair Heliena Walton, Vice Chair, Darlene Boyd, Patricia Bains, Teresa Lavagnino, Liz Sanchez - Turner, Fran Fitzharris, Luke Kerbs; Fran Fitzharris, Kim Calame

Absent Excused: Suzie Velez; Stephanie Correia

Guests: Brian Coleman GoBiz; Renee' Wells, San Benito County EDC;

Items Not on the Agenda: Heliena Walton stated that Kristina Hastings has suggested that the City hire a special events coordinator. There were statements of support for this idea (Kim Calame, Patricia Bains, Teresa Lavagnino) Fran Fitzharris stated that the San Juan Community Business Committee sponsors several events.

There was discussion about off street parking in the downtown area and coordination with the city to improve and maintain public parking areas.

Renee' Wells provided several updates including CEDS funding from the EDA regarding preliminary approval and expect CEDS funding approval in August, the CERF program, and the county micro grants program. There was discussion regarding tax revenue and business development. There was discussion about business development and support that the EDC provides, California Competes and the San Juan Bautista Opportunity Zone.

Subcommittees provided brief updates:

Economic Development Outreach: Darlene Boyd stated that Monterey Bay Economic Partnership has produced a report that says that employment is low, inflation is high and the cost of housing is high. Brian Foucht requested that this committee produce a list and meeting schedule for all the economic development groups in Monterey and San Benito County. Luke Krebs suggested that we have a place to store meeting materials and information. Brian Foucht stated that the Committee should enable full transparency by using the City's website and the City as the repository for all committee related material, rather than a separate off line storage area.

Business Development and Outreach: Patricia Bains and Fran Fitzharris stated that their committee is working to establish a business network and inventory and are beginning a program to look at business development and retention obstacles and opportunities. The Committee intends outreach to other communities to identify how other locations support small town business support and development in practice. Renee' Wells suggested the committee look at CalGold.ca.gov for local business support, and that she is working with the High School to develop an economic development video series.

Fran Fitzharris recommended that we have a small business expo to provide ED links to programs for local businesses.

Community Relations and Resources: Kim Calame summarized that members are getting acquainted and organized, are discussing recreation as a community and visitor attraction. Teresa Lavagnino discussed efforts to open up the school track and courts for community access.

Patricia Baines moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kim Calame. The motion passed unanimously at 7:22 PM.