

MINUTES

June 8, 2022
McMinnville Economic Vitality Leadership Council
Regular Meeting

3:00 pm
Zoom Meeting
McMinnville, Oregon

Members Present: Carson Benner – Chair, Chris Chenoweth – Vice Chair, Jody Christensen, Walt Gowell, Mike Morris, Steve Patterson, Dani Chisholm, Heather Miller, John Dietz, Deven Paolo, Ellen Brittan, Gerardo Ochoa, Robert Banagay

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Heather Richards - City of McMinnville, Jeff Towery - City of McMinnville, Jeff Knapp - Visit McMinnville, Gioia Goodrum - McMinnville Chamber of Commerce, Dave Rucklos - McMinnville Downtown Association, Patty Herzog - McMinnville Economic Development Partnership, Heather Hadley Blank - McMinnville Economic Development Partnership

Others Present:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Minutes

- June 9, 2020

The minutes of June 9, 2020 were unanimously approved as presented.

3. Discussion Items

- MEVLC 2022/2023 Priorities

Ms. Richards presented the Staff report on the Council's priorities for 2022 and 2023, reviewing the priority project list and the action items for each project. Regarding the Wayfinding-Highway 18 project, she provided details about the bridge design, explaining where the artwork would be installed on the bridge. She would contact the project manager to find out how much space would be available for a welcome sign. She also confirmed that at the next meeting, she would provide a map showing properties owned by

the City, County, and school district, which would help inform action items for the Downtown Master Plan project.

Unknown Councilor moved to approve the MEVLC Priority Initiatives for 2022 and 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilor Patterson. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Reports

- Noble Grant

Ms. Richards reported that the grant funds had been received and the City would be hiring someone to oversee all of the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) grants. The position would be paid for using 15% of each project's funding. She answered questions from Councilors about the scope of the new position, the Workforce Development project, and the rules that dictate how the grant funds must be spent. Staff and the Councilors discussed the Workforce Development project and the committee developed to oversee the project, the Council's role and engagement in the projects, and the work done to date on each project. Councilors requested regular updates on the projects, expenditures, and compliance with the grant rules.

- Innovation Center

Ms. Herzog provided an update on the Innovation Center. Her update included information on public outreach efforts, the Regional Innovation Hub Grant application, the search for more funding, and potential partnerships.

Councilors and Staff discussed the Three Mile Lane area plan and the Highway Plan. Concerns about both plans were overshadowing the City's efforts to educate the community about the Innovation Center. Staff provided updates on and answered questions about both plans. Councilors and Staff agreed that more public participation in the hearings would be beneficial to the City and community because the City needs to know what the community wants and the community needs to be more informed about both projects. Councilors also discussed the pros and cons of each project, the project's impacts on the local economy and development, and the Council's role in advocating for the projects.

- Third Street Improvement Project

Ms. Richards reported that the project was in the concept design phase and the next phase would be the engineering phase. She also provided information about the project timeline.

- City General Fund Discussion

Ms. Richards reported that a reduced budget had been proposed to the Budget Committee.

5. Citizen Comments / Rumor Mill

Councilor Banagay said he was asked if the City had any projects planned along Highway 99 and the area outside of Third Street. Ms. Richards confirmed that the 99W Corridor project was included in the 2032 Strategic Plan.

6. Committee Member Comments

No comments.

7. Staff Comments

Ms. Goodrum requested that Councilors review the survey included in the agenda packet and suggest changes. Councilor Christensen provided feedback. Councilors and Staff also discussed ways that the data produced by the survey results could be used.

Ms. Richards noted that the Business Oregon Executive Summary for Economic Development was included in the agenda packet for informational purposes.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.