



EXECUTIVE  
DEPARTMENT

## CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

P. O. Box 9422  
25 Cottage Road  
South Portland, ME 04116-9422

Don Gerrish  
Interim City Manager

### MINUTES

#### Economic Development Committee

**Wednesday, January 25, 2017**

**6:00 PM**

**City Hall – City Manager's Office**

**Attendees:**

Martha Riehle – District 1  
Joel Ouellette – District 2  
Peter Stocks – District 4  
Bob O'Brien – Business

Ross Little – District 2  
Stephen Bushey – District 3  
Fawn Dunphy – Business  
Joshua Reny – Asst. City Manager

**Absent:**

David Schneider – District 1  
Ed Palmer – Business

Bruce Bennett – District 5  
Brandon Mitchell – Business

1. Committee Chair Ross Little called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. Minutes – Motion by Dunphy seconded by Stocks to approve the minutes of December 14, 2016. All in favor.
3. Marketing/Branding Interviews – The Committee invited two companies to discuss their proposals submitted in response to the Request for Qualifications that was advertised in late 2016. The Committee met first with Jessica Kellogg of Rumbletree Marketing, followed by Alexandra Heseltine of GCMD. Following the discussion with each company, the Committee indicated it preferred Rumbletree and asked Josh to check references and discuss a tailored scope of work.
4. The Committee discussed the recent Council workshop meeting. It appears there is support from the Council to increase the city's capacity to do economic development work. Some Councilors seemed support of an ED Corporation, and others preferred to see a more traditional arrangement with in-house staff. The Council asked the Manager to earmark some money in the FY18 City Budget for economic development. A decision will be made at a later date after the new City Manager is on board. The Committee would like to invite the new Manager to a meeting in either April or May to discuss the matter.

5. Ross brought up an initiative that GPCOG is spearheading to hold a business-oriented food event for local food industry manufacturers as well as startups. Joes volunteered to get involved with this and be the liaison for the Committee.
6. The final item was a Committee roundtable discussion. Josh asked the Committee if South Portland should take a position on the proposed Cold Storage Facility in Portland. The Committee was supportive of this approach. Josh will speak more about it with the City Manager.
7. Adjournment – Motion by Stocks seconded by Bushey to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. All in favor.