



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

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

James H. Gailey
City Manager

EXECUTIVE
DEPARTMENT

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, May 20, 2015
6:00 to 8:00 PM
City Hall – City Council Chambers

Attendees:

Ross Little – District 2
Greg Perry - District 3
William Collins - District 5

Mike Vaillancourt - Business
Bob O'Brien - Business

Jon Jennings – Assistant City Manager

Absent:

David Schneider - District 1
Peter Stocks - District 4
Steve Bushey - At-Large
John Schwartzman - At-Large

Ed Palmer - Business
Craig Gorris - Business
Justin Leblanc - Business
Fawn Dunphy - Business

1. Approval of Minutes from April 29, 2015 (Quorum was not present)
2. Economic Development Plan Discussion
After introductions, the ED Committee had a lengthy discussion about individuals that need to be included in an interview list for the ED Plan consultant to interview. The consultant wanted a list of between 20-25 names of South Portland community members and business members of varying industries. Sub-committee chair, Ross Little, led the discussion. It was stated that more West side representation was needed to balance the list of interviewees. It was always stressed that a diversity of opinion and gender was needed to create a balanced analysis of the city for the consultant. The meeting exclusively dealt with the list of people to be interviewed.

Adjourned: 8:00 pm

Cordially,

Jon P. Jennings, Assistant City Manager



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Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

6:00 to 8:00 PM

City Hall – Lower Level Conference Room

Attendees:

David Schneider - District 1
Ross Little – District 2
Greg Perry - District 3
Peter Stocks - District 4
William Collins - District 5
Steve Bushey - At-Large
John Schwartzman - At-Large

Justin Leblanc - Business
Mike Vaillancourt - Business
Fawn Dunphy - Business
Bob O'Brien - Business

Jon Jennings – Assistant City Manager

Absent:

Ed Palmer - Business
Craig Gorris - Business

1. Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2014; January 14, 2015; February 25, 2015; March 5, 2015 (6-0)
2. Economic Development Plan Discussion
The meeting began with introductions due to new members attending. Karl Seidman, consultant for the new economic development plan was introduced and he presented his background and a plan to move forward. Mr. Seidman said he will review the comprehensive plan, economic trends in the city, interview stakeholders and municipal officials. A subcommittee will take the lead in working with Mr. Seidman on the development of names for the interviews. The subcommittee is being led by Ross Little.

Steve Bushey commented that it is important for the Committee to be engaged in the process of the overall development of the ED Plan. Ross Little discussed the changing nature of the City and the need to educate residents and businesses about the process of developing the ED Plan. Bob O'Brien commented that the educational process was very important.

Bill Collins discussed the west end of the City. He said the west end is currently ignored and there are serious issues such as transportation and traffic. Must find common ground for the City to move forward.

Karl envisions meeting with the City Council in the near future with a public meeting in mid-September.

Adjourned: 8:00 pm

Cordially,

Jon P. Jennings
Assistant City Manager