

MINUTES FOR THE
BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, January 11th, 2024

1. Roll Call

The following members of the Business Advisory Board were present:

Jeff Carleton, Chair
Jocelyn Kearn
Alfonso Brito

Andy Robertson, Vice-Chair
Pook Carson
Scott Lytle

The following members of the Business Advisory Board were absent:

Abudujannah Soud

Also Present:

Veronica Cavanagh, Department of Economic Development; Peter Makowski, Department of Economic Development; Will Wright, Department of Economic Development; Jake Maxwell, Department of Economic Development, Todd Andersen, Department of Economic Development; Ibrahim Ramazani, Department of Economic Development, Andie Feldman: Department of Economic Development, Anne Olsen, Young Professionals of Salt Lake City; Allison Rowland, City Council Office; Angela Price, Department of Community and Neighborhood, Sara Montoya, City Attorney's Office.

1. Approval of the minutes

Vice-Chair Robertson made a motion to approve the minutes from November 8th, 2023, meeting. Ms. Carson seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Briefings by the Staff

Business Advisory Accomplishments in 2023

Mr. Makowski reflected on the accomplishments of the past year and expressed gratitude for the engagement and support of the Business Advisory Board. He highlighted various achievements, including addressing homelessness, improving event permitting processes, and supporting projects like the Sears Block. Mr. Makowski acknowledged the BAB's valuable feedback on internal projects and initiatives, such as the Main St Pedestrian Mall, Open Streets, North Temple project, and the train box. Additionally, the speaker commends the board's involvement in volunteer work, and improvements to the EDLF (Economic Development Loan Fund). The speaker also appreciates the board's efforts to be more outward facing, including creating videos to engage with the public and enhance transparency. The transcript concludes with expressions

of gratitude and anticipation for the upcoming year, along with a mention of the next leadership transition.

3. Business

A. North Temple Economic Action Plan Update

Jake Maxwell, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic Development, discussed the North Temple Economic Action Plan, emphasizing the representation from districts one and two. He said the City commissioned a study of the North Temple area from I-80 to 400 North and I-15 to I-215 and secured Avenue Consultants for The North Temple Economic Action Plan for the purposes of:

- Listen to and understand the needs of local businesses and residents.
- Help the City know where to make strategic and meaningful public investments.
- Assemble all previous and current plans and information into one place.
- Create a guide for new and private development.

Mr. Maxwell shared that the consulting process began in December, and they have held one stakeholder meeting, still in the early stages. The focus is on summarizing existing plans related to the North Temple area, considering eight different plans with various purposes. The goal is to avoid duplication and incorporate historical information, including a 2005 economic revitalization plan. The next steps involve data analysis, including consumer and development data, land use considerations, and community engagement to address the perceived disconnect in the area. Challenges include dealing with major landowners like Rocky Mountain Power, Utah State Fair Park, and KOA.

He highlighted the need to understand the potential impact of an MLB stadium on the community and how the City can influence its development positively. He also discussed the infrastructure issues, including Redwood Road and the lack of pedestrian-friendly areas, emphasizing the need for connectivity.

B. OPMA Open Meetings Training

Ms. Sara Montoya, Senior City Attorney, discussed her role with the City and specifically advising the Department of Economic Development. She collaborates closely with the department on the EDLF Loan program, assisting in document drafting and policy review. She also mentioned her role as the advisory legal counsel to the Business Advisory Board, offering to assist with legal questions and matters related to the group's governance. She then provided a Training on the Open Meetings Act for the BAB.

C. 2024 Utah Legislative Preview

Ms. Angela Price, Director of the Legislative Affairs Division, discussed her role and the City's legislative priorities. She mentions that the division was created in December and outlined her

team's structure. Ms. Price emphasized the City's commitment and discussed the top 5 key policy pillars:

1. Homelessness: The City places a high priority on addressing homelessness, working closely with Governor Cox on a comprehensive package covering funding, policies, and behavioral health components.
2. Housing: Initiatives focus on stabilizing renters, preventing homelessness, and providing affordable housing. Governor Cox's proposal includes a focus on starter homes, aligning with the City's goal of supporting home ownership.
3. Energy and Environment: The City is actively engaged in discussions about clean and renewable energy sources, with a specific focus on grid resilience. Additionally, attention is given to air quality and protecting the Great Salt Lake.
4. Protecting Local Control: Efforts are directed towards maintaining the integrity of the city and ensuring that sales tax revenue is used within the city for providing services to residents. This includes monitoring legislation related to political subdivisions and infrastructure districts.
5. Transportation: Priorities include addressing railroad safety and crossings, promoting active transportation, and supporting the expansion of public transportation, particularly in preparation for the Olympics. The City is also considering the Train Box project as a potential transportation development opportunity.

Ms. Price provided insights into ongoing initiatives such as the Unified Economic Opportunity Commission and discusses her division's focus on year-round legislative engagement. She discussed efforts to reintroduce a policy known as the alcohol variance, which allowed for special permissions within proximity to a community location. This policy had been discontinued but is now under consideration for revival due to strong interest not only from Salt Lake City but also from other municipalities. Additionally, Ms. Price mentions plans to expand alcohol utilization at the airport by introducing a lounge.

Chairperson Carleton asked whether the Train Box's was a priority for the City. Ms. Price confirmed it's a priority, currently in the scoping phase. Council Member Dugan is leading the effort, exploring innovative ways for transportation expansion, offering substantial development opportunities.

D. Chair/Vice Chair Elections

Chairperson Carleton made a motion for Andy Robertson to serve as Chair. Mr. Brito seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chair Robertson nominated Scott Lyttle to serve as Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Brito seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

4. City Council Announcements

No Announcements.

5. BAB Member Announcements

No Announcements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Andy Robertson
Andy Robertson (Mar 13, 2024 16:15 MDT)

Andy Robertson, Chair

This document and the recording constitute the official minutes of the Economic Development Business Advisory Board meeting held on January 11th, 2024.

BAB Minutes 1.10.24

Final Audit Report

2024-03-13

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