

MINUTES FOR THE
BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, April 13th, 2022
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

I, Darin Piccoli, Chair of the Business Advisory Board (BAB), hereby determine that conducting the Business Advisory Board meeting at an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present.

1. Roll Call

The following members of the Business Advisory Board were present:

Darin Piccoli, Chair	Sue Rice
Jeff Carleton, Vice-Chair	Scott Lyttle
Karen Gunn	Alfonso Brito
Abudujannah Soud	Andy Robertson

The following members of the Business Advisory Board were absent:

None.

Also Present:

Veronica Cavanagh, Department of Economic Development; Lorena Riffo Jenson, Department of Economic Development; Roberta Reichgelt, Department of Economic Development; Will Wright, Department of Economic Development; Cathie Rigby, Department of Economic Development; Peter Makowski, Department of Economic Development; Lindsey Day, Department of Economic Development; Katie Matheson, Department of Economic Development; Andie Feldman, Department of Economic Development; Todd Andersen, Department of Economic Development; Allison Rowland, Salt Lake City Council Office; Andrew Johnston, Department of Homeless Policy and Outreach; Pook Carson, Taylor Knuth, Arts Council; Renato Olmedo Gonzalez, Arts Council; Christian Lenhart, Dan Dugan, Salt Lake City Council Member.

2. Briefings by the Staff

A. Report from the Business Development Director

- Ms. Reichgelt provided an update on the City's ARPA funds for small business. Ms. Reichgelt stated that the Mayor introduced a community grants initiative a few months ago for ARPA funded programs which is currently under review with City Council. She explained that there has been discussion on allocating the 4 million
 - 2 million would go to nonprofits which would be administered by Community and
 - 2 million would be allocated to small businesses which would be administered by Economic Development.

Ms. Reichgelt introduced Brittney Hemingway as the new Project Coordinator for the Business Development team.

- Ms. Reichgelt announced that the National Small Business Week will take place the first week of May. The Economic Development staff are creating a video series with the Mayor to showcase what Business Development does within the small business community. Economic Development will also hold a Small Business Appreciation event at Art Barn on May 4th.

B. Report from Director of Homeless Policy & Outreach

Mr. Johnston provided an update on the legislative session as it pertains to funding and requests regarding homeless mitigation. He highlighted information and answered questions concerning bed shortages, the legislation of temporary facilities, Mayor's moratorium, and zoning text amendments.

C. Announcement on Living Traditions Festival

Mr. Knuth provided an update on Living Traditions Festival and information on sponsorship opportunities. He said the Living Traditions Festival is one of the few remaining festivals in Salt Lake City that is still free admission, which is made possible through sponsorship and volunteering. The festival will take place May 20 – 22 with 80 performers spread across three stages and will also have 20 different ethnic food vendors and a craft market.

Mr. Knuth explained that a dozen sponsors have signed on to support the festival. He said if any BAB members are interested in sponsorship to please reach out to him. Mr. Knuth states that if any BAB members are interesting to volunteer to please reach out.

3. **Approval of the minutes**

Ms. Rice made a motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2022 meeting. Mr. Carleton seconded the motion. Upon roll call, the motion passed unanimously.

4. **Business**

A. Rio Grande Plan

Mr. Lenhart presented on the Rio Grande Plan, a redevelopment proposal based on the restoration of rail service to the Rio Grande Depot and discussed why this would be good for business for Salt Lake City

Ms. Gunn asked how Mr. Lenhart envisions the development around the Rio Grande. Mr. Lenhart said it will have a bit of everything from mixed-use, housing, and commercial. However, it will all depend on what coalition of partners comes together to make the plan happen.

Ms. Rice asked if the construction would disrupt downtown business. Mr. Lenhart said there will be a substantial disruption for people along 500 West but there are many good civil engineering practices if a person goes block by block closing streets.

Ms. Rice asked how this development has coordinated with the University of Utah. Mr. Lenhart said there have been discussions and there could be a potential outcome. The University of Utah is looking how their needs may fit into this plan.

Chairperson Piccoli asked what the next steps are and how can the BAB help. Mr. Lenhart responded that just getting the word out there would be helpful. Also, writing to your Legislators can also help.

Ms. Reichgelt asked what the timeline is for this project and how would he want this to go. Mr. Lenhart said this project could be a ten-year project. He hopes to have something started by the time the Olympics will be here.

B. Arts Council Public Art Program

Mr. Olmedo Gonzalez provided a presentation on the Salt Lake City's Public Art Program and its past, current, and future public art projects.

Ms. Gunn asked how the program engages with the public, and whether they are residents or businesses and what you would like to do as you commission artists. Mr. Olmedo Gonzalez said each project is unique and there is no blueprint on how public art can be done. Most of the time they engage with the local community council or business districts. They do not hold elections on which art should be commissioned as it could turn into a popularity contest.

C. Updates to Economic Development Loan Fund (EDLF) Program

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

5. **City Council Announcements**

None.

6. **BAB Member Announcements**

None.

7. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


[darin piccoli](#) (Sep 12, 2022 10:36 MDT)
Darin Piccoli, Chairperson

This document and the recording constitute the official minutes of the Economic Development Business Advisory Board meeting held April 13th, 2022.

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Final Audit Report

2022-09-12

Created:	2022-09-12
By:	Veronica Cavanagh (veronica.cavanagh@slcgov.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAZ7SNkupGNTfsJe6O9KDHFtY1e4iz1hMq

"BAB MINUTES 4.13.2022 1" History

 Document created by Veronica Cavanagh (veronica.cavanagh@slcgov.com)
2022-09-12 - 4:30:29 PM GMT

 Document emailed to d@thestateroomslc.com for signature
2022-09-12 - 4:30:42 PM GMT

 Email viewed by d@thestateroomslc.com
2022-09-12 - 4:36:42 PM GMT

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2022-09-12 - 4:36:57 PM GMT

 Document e-signed by darin piccoli (d@thestateroomslc.com)
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