

**CITY OF ARCATA
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**City of Arcata Council Chambers
736 F Street, Arcata (City Hall)**

**January 5, 2017
Thursday at 5:00**

- I. **ROLL CALL.** Committee Members: Brett Watson (Chair), Jane Woodward, Maureen Hart, Craig Wruck, Bryan Willkomm. Not Present: Rattnak Sokhom; Fawn Scheer – Resigned. NOTE: Wruck arrived 5:20 p.m.
- II. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS.** None
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Minutes: November 3, 2016, and December 1, 2016 were approved by EDC on a motion by Woodward, second by Willkomm and a 4-0 voice vote on January 5, 2017.
- IV. **BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS.**
 - A. Election of EDC Chair and Vice Chair. On a motion by Watson and a second by Woodward and a 5-0 voice vote, Willkomm was elected as Chair. On a motion by Woodward and a second by Willkomm and a 5-0 voice vote Hart was elected as Vice Chair.
 - B. Presentation by Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction (HACHR). Brandi Wilson with HACHR presented the economic benefits to the community for HACHR’s harm reduction program. HACHR requested the City contribute \$12,000 to assist in funding the program. ACTION - On a motion by Woodward and a second by Hart and a 5-0 voice vote the Committee recommends the Arcata City Council consider funding HACHR for public safety purposes.
 - C. Arcata Business of the Year. ACTION – Staff liaison Mateer informed the EDC the City Council will be selecting the 2017 Business of the Year awardee based on the two nominees selected by the EDC subcommittee.
 - D. Pedicab and other public transportation alternatives. ACTION – On a motion by Watson, a second by Hart, and a 5-0 voice vote, the EDC created a subcommittee of Watson, Willkomm, and Sokhom to review and report on public transportation alternatives.
 - E. Update on City and State economic development opportunities related to the cannabis industry. Action: None. Staff liaison Mateer updated the EDC on the City’s cannabis regulatory program. EDC member Hart discussed an existing business owner’s difficulty in complying with the City’s cannabis regulatory program because the business is not located in in the Medical Cannabis (Marijuana) Innovation Zone. Currently the retail business provides non cannabis products that support the industry and would like to expand to include cannabis seeds. The EDC discussed how information may assist cannabis businesses understand and develop their own financial security to ensure business viability. Special events to attract visitors to Arcata was discussed as a possible economic opportunity.
- V. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.** The purpose of this item is for the Committee to request and prioritize items to be placed on future agendas. No deliberation of the items will be conducted, nor will any action take place, other than whether a specific item will be included on a future agenda.
 - A. Industrial lands. Define the type of markets the City wants in the next 15-20 years. Develop strategies to promote Arcata’s under-utilized industrial lands to the targeted markets.
 - B. Procurement Policies for Local Businesses: How do local business make decisions on buying local versus non-local products and services?
 - C. Houseless/Homeless issues affecting Arcata’s economy.
 - D. Night life for underage.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMITTEE, AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS.

VII. ADJOURNMENT. 7:20 p.m.

2017	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bryan Willkomm	X											
Maureen Hart	X											
Jane Woodward	X											
Brett Watson	X											
Craig Wruck	X											
Rattnak Sokhom	O											
Vacancy												

X=Present; O=Absent; C=Cancelled; S=Special Meeting (absences do not count)

Approved by EDC on a motion by Woodward, second by Sokhom and a 6-0 voice vote on February 2, 2017.

ATTEST:

Joe Mateer, Senior Planner – Staff Liaison