



City of Doral . Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Doral Government Center
1st Floor Multipurpose Room
8401 NW 53rd Terrace
Doral, FL 33166

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Board Members

Juan Carlos Esquivel, Chair	Present
Angel Navarro, Vice Chair	Present
Elizabeth Irausquin, Secretary	Present
Carlos Bermudez, Board Member	Present
Rodman Martinez, Board Member	Present

Also, present:

Nicholas Perez-Cubas, Business Outreach Coordinator
Maggie Santos, Communications Director

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the August 8, 2023 meeting minutes made by board member Juan Carlos Esquivel and seconded by board member Angel Navarro. By consensus, motion passes unanimously.

6. Discussion Items

a. **Follow up on previous agenda meeting and presentations**

The Chair, Juan Carlos, informed the board that Gus Machado Ford reached out to him after the presentation because he had not heard back from the city. Nicholas informed the board that Manny disseminated the information to different departments. Juan Carlos went on to say that he spoke to the HR director, and she didn't know anything about a letter, so Nicholas will be following up with Manny regarding the information being dispersed to the right departments/directors.

Regarding Eagle Media, Manny Pila brought it up during a Planning & Zoning Department meeting but some of the things they proposed aren't allowed due to the City's code. Nicholas informed the board that the sign ordinance is currently being reviewed, so a lot of things might change regarding the ordinance, and they can revisit the proposal from Eagle Media once the sign ordinance is completed.

b. Discussion: Proposed 2024 Doral Business Expo

The board wants to propose having a Doral Business Expo where all the businesses in Doral are invited to attend. The goal is to attract businesses to Doral and with this expo the businesses can also learn all the benefits that Doral has. Maggie informed the board that the city is planning something similar with all the city departments for the first period of 2024. The board would like to stay updated on the fair and would like to get their own booth as well.

Maggie also informed the board that the Economic Development division has been transferred from the Planning & Zoning department to the Public Affairs department. So, they'll be working together on upcoming events and projects.

c. Country of Ecuador Investors

The Chair brought up the Sister Cities Program. The Economic Development division oversees the program but there is a process. The city or country is normally brought to the table by the mayor, or a councilmember and it gets added to a Council Meeting where they will discuss the subject and approve or deny it.

Some of the Sister Cities are Armenia and Barranquilla, Colombia; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Higuey, Dominican Republic; Oranjestad, Aruba; and the Xixhi District of New Taipei City, Taiwan.

Ecuador is interested in the Sister Cities Program, specifically with the city of Guayaquil. The Chair informed the board that he will discuss this with one of the councilmembers or the mayor to see if they are interested in sponsoring it.

The board would like the contact of all sister cities in Doral.

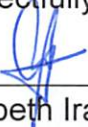
7. Next Meeting

- January 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth Irausquin, Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023 Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting made by Board Member _____ and seconded by Board Member _____.

Juan Carlos Esquivel, Chair



Angel Navarro, Vice Chair



Elizabeth Irausquin, Secretary



Carlos Bermudez, Board Member

Rodman Martinez, Board Member

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 23rd day of January, 2024.



Juan Carlos Esquivel, Chair