

Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 @ 9:00 am

Present: Mayor Howard Long, Terri Packard, Dana Healy, Paul Healy, Ron Humbel, Natoma Vargason, Council liaison Marilee Kerns and Town Manager Paul Mantello

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by Mayor Long.

Mayor Long gave an update about Washington County Health Department Covid-19 vaccination clinics being held at Trinity Lutheran Church, 64 South Main Street Boonsboro for Boonsboro area residents. March 1, with follow-up date March 28 – appointments are all filled; A second clinic to be held - March 15, with follow-up date April 12 – link on Town of Boonsboro website.

Mayor Howard Long congratulated everyone on their appointments to the EDC commission – the Mayor & Council unanimously approved the appointments at their November meeting. The Mayor stated that the first order of business should be the election of Commission Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer. Motion by Ron Humbel to nominate Terri Packard as Chair, second by Dana Healy – motion passed unanimously. Motion by Ron Humbel to nominate Natoma Vargason as Vice-Chair, second by Dana Healy – motion passed unanimously. Motion by Paul Healy to nominate Ron Humbel as Treasurer, second by Natoma Vargason – motion passed unanimously. The position of secretary will be tabled until the next meeting. *(Chair Terri Packard conducted the remainder of the commission meeting)*

Motion by Paul Healy to approve the minutes of the October 28 EDC meeting; second by Natoma Vargason; minutes approved.

Old Business:

- Girls Night Out – Natoma Vargason gave an update - stated it was expanded to four days with a scavenger hunt with clues and prizes and was well attended; Next one scheduled in May 2021
- Town Banners – Natoma Vargason circulated sample banners for the town square – **Cultural Crossroads** – 4 Unique Banners: History, Recreation, Transportation, Community – Each will have a unique picture and feature local attractions. Natoma Vargason made a motion to obtain pricing on artwork/design and printing of the banners; second by Ron Humbel; Motion passed and Paul Healy will get quote.
- Proclamation for Barber Pete Buchanan – no action has been taken to date
- Special Events: Greenfest cancelled for May 2021 – the Environmental Commission is looking at the possibility of having a recycling event in conjunction with bulk trash pickup in the spring; No final decision on the carnival by the Ambulance Company; Permit application has been submitted for the Memorial Parade by the American Legion; Boonsborough Days scheduled for September 11 & 12;

Fireworks scheduled for Friday, July 2, 2021 (rain date: Monday, July 5); No event at Antietam Battlefield for 2021

New Business:

● **Springtastic Jubilee – April 17 – May 2, 2021 - Natoma** Vargason & Dana Healy presented A joyful celebration of community spirit:
Window Painting Contest for Main Street Businesses; Music; Sidewalk Games/Family Friendly Games; Photo Booth, etc. A budget of \$750 was set for the event by the committee.

● **Town Beautification** – The empty town planters were discussed. Natoma Vargason made a motion to spend \$500 on filling the planters for the spring & summer season; second by Ron Humbel; motion passed. It was decided to contact the BHS FFA for flowers/plants. There was discussion about the watering and maintenance of the planters. Natoma Vargason made a motion to price watering device(s). Town Manager stated the public works department is looking into a watering tank. The motion was not seconded and the Town Manager will report back to commission with ideas for watering by the public works department. Further discussion took place and the idea of consulting with various landscapers to give us a “Beautify Main Street” vision was discussed and would like to be pursued. After this idea was discussed – a motion was made by Natoma Vargason to rescind the earlier motion and to spend \$250 on filling the planters for the spring season only at this time; second by Ron Humbel; motion passed.

● **Potential Members:** Marie Oyster of Fulton Bank (Boonsboro Branch) and Tiffany Ahalt of the Hagerstown & Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau. Natoma Vargason made a motion to recommend to the Mayor & Council the appointment of Tiffany Ahalt and Marie Oyster to the EDC; second by Dana Healy; motion passed.

● **Meeting Refreshments** – Marilee Kerns volunteered to arrange for the breakfast refreshments for the next meeting.

● **Networking Breakfasts** – The commission would like to continue with the Business Networking Breakfasts and speakers once the Covid-19 restrictions are eased. The Mayor volunteered to check with the Boonsboro American Legion as a venue for buffet breakfast meetings on the third Thursday of every other month.

Next EDC meeting will be Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 9:00 am

Motion to adjourn by Ron Humbel, second by Dana Healy, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilee Kerns

Council Liaison