

**TOWN OF CAROLINA SHORES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2016
1:00 p.m.**

Mayor Joyce Dunn called the November 10, 2016 Economic Development Commission meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Commissioners Present: Mary Timothy, Gere Dale, John E. Manning, Greg Davis and Bill Brennan. Also Present: Jon Mendenhall, Town Administrator and Nicole Marks, Town Clerk.

Absent: None

Others Absent: None

Approval of Minutes:

Held over until December.

Administrative Reports:

Mr. Mendenhall said there are no Administrative Reports at this time.

New Business:

Presentation by Brunswick County Economic Development:

Mr. Mike Hargett, Director of Economic Development and Planning gave the EDC a PowerPoint overview of economic development in Brunswick County. Mr. Hargett introduced Mr. John Allen, Economic Development Manager of the County. Mr. Hargett reviewed the following items:

- Excellent transportation including the Atlantic, the rail and excellent highway connections.
- Steady growth over five decades and is expected to continue until at least 2030.
- State wide rankings, fastest growing County in North Carolina from years 2010-2015, currently second.
- Second highest in private sector with job increase from 1990-2015.
- Assets include: Industrial site County wide, utility systems, transportation network, available workforce, quality of life.
- Collaborative team throughout the County and industrial sites. Two of the largest sites are located on highway 74 adjoining Columbus County. Each site is a 1,000 acres plus and they are North Carolina certified sites.
- Two international airports. Cape Fear Regional Jet port in Oak Island that has a five thousand foot runway which is used extensively.
- Leland Industrial Park on Highway 74.
- U.S. Marine facility has larger building. Currently have a shortage of buildings in Brunswick County.
- Employment Factors.
- Excellent working relationship with Brunswick County College.

- Diverse Housing types
- Leisure and Recreation – beach communities, nature trails and blue ways, public and private.
- Parks and Recreation – The County has spent millions and millions of dollars on parks and have a very robust park system.
- Neighbors of Wilmington and Myrtle Beach.
- Education – Brunswick County School system. Charter, Private and College’s.
- Favorable tax rate and especially in Carolina Shores and the addition of Medical Facility.
- Brunswick County described as having a rural feel but with urban benefits.
- Diverse industry base including manufacturing. Conventional industries as well.
- The team is one of the best assets for the County and focused on meeting customer needs and goals.
- The County Board of Commissioners and Ann Hardy, County Manager is very supportive of economic development efforts.
- Leadership in the County is top notch.
- Planning staff very knowledgeable.
- Streamlined process in Unified Development Ordinance, online access to all permitting.
- Do special plans, studies and projects including mapping and GIS.
- Participated in the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Project – survey of significant properties in Brunswick County and it has been published.
- Available workforce and customized training to meet the labor force needs.

There was further discussion on these items. Mr. Hargett thanked the Board of Commissioners and the Board thanked Mr. Hargett for coming.

Passage of Ride 3 in Horry County and Extension of Carolina Bays Parkway Discussion:

Mr. Mendenhall said Ride 3 Passed Tuesday night and I just wanted to let everybody know that the extension of Carolina Bays Parkway was part of Ride 3 in Horry County and that’s the additional sales tax that they are going to levy. Mr. Mendenhall said Carolina Bays Parkway won’t probably be the first one out of the gate. Mayor Dunn said the key thing that came out of that is that Horry County is now taking this seriously and North Carolina needs to talk about taking it seriously. Commissioner Brennan said GSATS was excited as a whole. Mayor Dunn said there was great support for it and it will be moving forward and GSATS will be working hard. There was further discussion on the Exit and where it will tie back into Highway 17. There was discussion on the Caw Caw.

Update on Comprehensive Plan:

Mr. Mendenhall said that Mr. Dale Holland was here on Tuesday and interviewed different interviewee’s for the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Mendenhall said Mr. Holland has developed some more sections and they will be talked about at the Planning Board meeting on November 16th. Mr. Mendenhall said things seem to be going well and there is not a whole lot to report but wanted to keep the EDC up to date.

Public Comment:

None

Closed Session:

None

Adjourn:

COMMISSIONER BRENNAN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 10, 2016 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING. COMMISSIONER MANNING SECONDED THE MOTION. MAYOR DUNN CALLED FOR A VOTE AND MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Mayor

Submitted by:
Nicole Marks, Town Clerk