

**FREEPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY, February 12, 2015, 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM
Freeport Community Center
MINUTES**

1. The Meeting Convened at 7:40 AM

In attendance: Jim Cassida, Wendy Caisse, Candice Rinaldi, Mary Davis, Zane Shatzer, Ed Bradley, Adam Nappi, David Latulippe, Kristina Egan

Absent: Chip Gray, Peter Troast, Mark Malone, Peter Joseph

Guest: Andy Kull

2. Introductory comments

Jim thanked everyone for coming and explained that this meeting was held instead of the meeting originally scheduled for February 24, with an abbreviated agenda.

3. Election of Andrew Kull, Esq. to Vacant Board Seat

Jim welcomed Andy Kull, and asked the board members to introduce themselves. Andy thanked the board. He introduced himself as an attorney who practiced in business and consumer law, and also had some experience in property/real estate matters. He spoke to his interest in Freeport, particularly the schools, and his experience serving on boards of other non-profits. Betsy moved and Adam seconded Andy's election to the board. The vote was unanimous of all those present and voting.

4. Discussion Regarding Proposed FY2016 Budget

Keith presented a draft budget for FY2016. He said that a preliminary conversation about the budget needed to take place so that he could prepare an adequate funding request to the council in advance of our workshop scheduled for March 10. Keith highlighted some changes from the FY2015 budget: specifically the elimination of the marketing budget and economic development services line items. Wendy suggested that these line items should not appear in the budget if they had been eliminated. Keith agreed and said he would make the revision. Ed asked about the "Public Meetings" line item, and asked whether or not it should be raised in light of current projects, such as the Arts Center Exploration, which will require some public meeting costs. Keith said he had raised it from last year in response to the fact that FEDC was now paying for meeting space at FCS. Ed suggested, then, that there be a "Special Projects" line item that could cover expenses on such projects, if they arose. David agreed and suggested adding \$5,000 to that line item, and that our budget request to the council be \$95,000, equal to the amount requested last year. The board agreed. Keith thanked the board for the feedback, and said that further discussion and approval of the FY2016 budget would take place at FEDC's April and May board meetings.

5. Discussion Regarding Workshop with Town Council (March 10)

Jim emphasized that attendance at the workshop was critical. He asked everyone who was available to please attend. Keith said that he was planning to make a brief presentation to the council, and then allow 15-20 minutes for questions from councilors. He asked whether or not the board had suggestions for the presentation. David suggested focusing on accomplishments. A discussion followed on what projects would fit within that theme, and David pointed out that our work this year benefitted exclusively small, local businesses, along with a few community-oriented projects (schools, arts, solar power infrastructure.) Keith said he would follow these guidelines for his presentation.

6. Adjourn

Before adjourning Kristina Egan discussed the idea of a Freeport Climate Change Action Plan, and whether or not FEDC would be willing to look at climate change's impact on the economy in Freeport. Jim said it would be something worth discussing going forward, as climate change clearly will impact the economy of Freeport and beyond. Kristina said she would be in touch with Keith about this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM.