

**FREEPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, July 28, 2015, 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM
Freeport Community Services
MINUTES**

1. The meeting convened at 7:38

In attendance: Jim Cassida, Adam Nappi, Mary Davis, David Latulippe, Andy Kull, Mark Malone, Ed Bradley, Peter Troast, Candice Rinaldi, Zane Shatzer

Absent: Chip Gray, Wendy Caisse, Peter Joseph, Kristina Egan

Guests: Bill Rixon

2. Introductory comments

Jim apologized for being unable to attend the Annual Meeting in June, but said that he and Keith had discussed the meeting. He thanked Bucks Naked BBQ for hosting. He asked if any other board members wanted to make any other introductory remarks to begin the meeting. There were none. Jim said he would typically take a guest speaker's item out of order, but since Stephanie Petkers had not arrived yet, he suggested they move to other items.

3. Consent Agenda Items:

1. Approval of MINUTES of June 23, 2015 meeting

David moved and Zane seconded approval of the minutes. The vote was unanimous of all those present and voting.

2. Acceptance of FINANCIAL STATEMENT for the period ending June 30, 2015

Keith said that the Financial Statement was not yet a year-end report, because there were still some outstanding expenses which needed to be billed to FEDC and paid before the fiscal year could be closed. These invoices would come from the town, seeking payment for FEDC's share of I.T. support services, telephone and postage. Keith said that once FY2015 closed, he would provide a year-end report to the board via e-mail, since the board would not be meeting again until the end of September. Jim C. asked if there were any questions with regard to the June 30 financial statement. There were none. Adam moved and Mary seconded acceptance of the financial statement. The vote was unanimous of all those present and voting.

4. Economic Development Report (Written Report)

Keith presented a written economic development report, and asked if the board had any questions about items not covered in the report, or if they wanted to discuss any of the items contained therein. David remarked that the meetings with the Sewer District Trustees had been productive and positive. He said that one of the issues that came to light is the policy and procedure for getting matters heard, considered and voted on by the Sewer Trustees. Keith said that transparency and predictability is an issue in their process. Ed suggested that transparency in their policies and procedure could be a great workshop topic between the Sewer Trustees and the Town council. David thought we should have a discussion at the FEDC board level.

5. Introduction and Presentation from the new Chamber Director, Stephanie Petkers

Stephanie had not yet arrived, so Jim C. suggested they continue on with the agenda.

6. Request from the Freeport Arts and Cultural Alliance

Ed gave a brief history of this project, which began as an exploration into an Arts & Cultural Center in Freeport. The group organized under a non-profit named the Freeport Arts and Cultural Alliance, and is looking at arts & culture in Freeport more broadly. As an early project, the group is proposing to develop a communication piece that both informs and markets arts and cultural events in and around Freeport to residents and guests, alike. The FACA board has estimated that this will require approximately \$3,000 in funding. Freeport Community Players had agreed to put in \$1000 if FEDC would match that amount, and Ed said that the remaining \$1000 could be fund-raised. The board asked Keith to address the financial side of this request. He said that it is unusual for FEDC to receive requests for funds, but the FY2015 budget included \$2,500 for a "TBD Project." Adam moved that \$1,000 be allocated from the "TBD Project" line item as an investment in the FACA Organization. Mary seconded. The vote was unanimous of all those present and voting, with Ed Bradley abstaining.

7. Executive Session

The board entered executive session at 8:50. The board came out of executive session at 9:05.

8. Adjourn

Keith apologized, saying there must have been a scheduling mishap with Stephanie Petkers. He would bring her back for another meeting later in the year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 AM.