MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

7:00 CONVENE REGULAR MEETING Chair Shrem called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Jean Shrem, Vice-Chair Rachel Melby, Members: Christopher Bunting, Travis Campbell, George Gager, Sandra Mayithara, Patrick Swen, Eric Wright, Jonathan Zazove **Absent:** Member Mark Figone **Others:** Ivan Rothman

2. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
There were no oral communications from the public.

3. **STAFF/COUNCIL LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**
Ashoori provided the following staff updates: Mayfair commercial spaces available; Tigon now open at 10086 SPA (took over previous bus.); 310 Eatery was exploring a restaurant space at 10140 SPA.

4. **EL CERRITO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATES**
Ashoori shared an upcoming Chamber mixer at Burgerim on 9/22/2022 @ 5:30pm and Best of El Cerrito award ceremony at Juku on 10/20/2022.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
**Moved/Second:** Chair Shrem/Wright **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt the minutes of the regular committee meeting held on August 15, 2022. **Ayes:** Members Gager, Swen **Noes:** None **Abstention:** Bunting, Campbell Melby, Zazove

6. **EDC WORK PLAN UPDATES**
Ashoori provided an update on the Why El Cerrito website to share with EDC using Google Doc to solicit feedback in the coming week.

The Commercial Real Estate Agent Subcommittee – Campbell, Melby, Shrem - convened to discuss matchmaking available commercial spaces utilizing a catalog of landlords/commercial realtors. Would like to compile a list of desired businesses in general categories and brainstorming ways to attract. Also, would like to poll the community to ensure the EDC interest matches broader community via newsletters/social media. Member Bunting will work on script and series of questions to share while in conversation with landlords/realtors. Subcommittee has interest in learning why businesses may not move forward
with vacant spaces to identify the gap and ways/programs to improve.

Ashoori polled EDC to solicit interest in having staff from the West County Small Business Development Center – Kitchen812- to present at a future meeting. Chair Shrem also suggested a commercial broker from MRE to share more with EDC. The committee is interested in both speakers.

Other workplan items:
Pickleball Tournaments – Chair Shrem – no updates currently.
Small Business Outreach – Member Wright - would like to educate small businesses on new legal/HR issues regulations to guide small businesses through the nuts/bolts.

7. **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Jean Shrem
Jean Shrem, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Economic Development Committee meeting of September 19, 2022, as approved by the Economic Development Committee.

Aissia Ashoori

Aissia Ashoori, Staff Liaison