



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH 2024 - 4:00 P.M.
SECOND FLOOR (CMO) CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL
910 S. FRIENDSWOOD DRIVE, FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm with the following members present:

**CHAIR SUSAN ASIMAKIS
VICE CHAIR BLAISE GUZZETTA
COMMITTEE MEMBER JUDY WIGGINS
COMMITTEE MEMBER DENISE SPRUIELL
COMMITTEE MEMBER KYLE WINNE
COUNCILMEMBER SALLY BRANSON
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER STEVEN RHEA
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUBREY HARBIN**

**ABSENT:
COMMITTEE MEMBER PAULINE MOORE
SECRETARY KRISTINA CUELLAR**

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Susan Asimakis announced that Andrea Trabanino has resigned from the Committee; Andrea is still willing to help out and offers Summer Moon as a place for events. Chair Asimakis requested volunteers to fill the vacant position.

3. MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the Community and Economic Development Committee Regular Meeting held on August 7, 2024, and October 2, 2024: Blaize Guzzetta
Second: Denise Spruiell
Vote: 5 to 0 (approved)

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discuss the Community and Economic Development Committee economic development and business retention strategy.

Introductions

Jaylon and Lynn Spencer from Workforce Solutions in Brazoria County, connected by Amy Reed, attended the meeting for introductions. They explained that the goals of Workforce Solutions this year have been to partner with Economic Development Corporations and Chambers of Commerce. They have tools and resources already for career development, internships, scholarships, and more.

Small Business Week 2025 – planned for May 5-9, 2025

Chair Asimakis explained that the national organization is focusing on encouraging businesses to apply for awards. The group discussed ideas for a theme such as Pathways to Prosperity. November 30 is Small Business Saturday, and the group decided to promote next year's event on this day. They will continue to brainstorm on the agenda and topics. They requested the Communications Department to attend the December meeting to discuss marketing ideas.

Internship Program – Future Works

A few of the committee members met with Susan Kirkpatrick, Friendswood ISD and they are meeting with a representative of Clear Creek ISD tomorrow. There will be a meeting with San Jacinto Community College soon. Jaylon and Lynn, Workforce Solutions, explained the services that they have to offer which include paid work experience for qualified applicants 16-24 years of age. Opportunities can last up to 12 weeks and pay a maximum of \$15 per hour. They have 28 offices with databases for students/employees and employers.

5. REPORTS

Skipped due to length of meeting

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.