



CITY OF FRANKLIN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

MINUTES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

December 10, 2024

Members Present:

Josh DeArmitt	President
Shawn Taylor	Vice President
Eric Luegers	Secretary
Lee Hodgen	Member
Lisa Jones	Member

Others Present:

Dana Monson	Community Development Specialist
Ellen Fredbeck	Legal Counsel

Call to Order:

Josh DeArmitt called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call & Determination of a Quorum

Approval of Minutes

October 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes – Lee Hodgen made a motion for approval of the minutes. Shawn Taylor seconded. Passed unanimously, 5-0.

Old Business

EDC Fees Recipient Update

Public Art Advisory Commission – Vice President Joshua Hendrickson reported. The funding went to the intersection of Jackson and Monroe which should be completed in the spring. It also went to the metal military scenes for the Veterans' Alley upgrade. This project will be done within the coming months. Ms. Monson added that the contracts for the Veteran's Alley were approved at Monday night's Board of Works meeting. Mr. DeArmitt is excited about the intersection project and has been talking with a lot of people about it.

Franklin Chamber of Commerce Foundation – Rosie Chambers reported funds given out for the capacity building grant program for small businesses. Recipient entities are reporting back with the required statements of impact. Ms. Chambers went through the list of recipients. Twelve businesses each were permitted to apply for \$2,500. One applied for less, so the extra money was used to award two Franklin Community School students a young entrepreneurial grant. A 16-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl received the two grants. The Indiana Chamber Association awarded the Franklin Chamber an innovation award. The American Chamber Association listed this program as among the top 10 "cool things" being done by chambers across the United States. Other chambers are also calling to learn how it was done and how the money was secured and offered.

Franklin Heritage Inc. – Rob Shilts reported using the grant funding to work with three different strategic planning groups in trying to expand all businesses. They have a second interview with one after this meeting. He also plans for more neighborhood restoration and education opportunities they wish to host going forward.

New Business

2025 Meeting Date Calendar – Ms. Monson identified that all current members continue next year. November’s meeting is one week early due to Veteran’s Day.

Other Business

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Taylor with a second from Mr. Hodgen. It passed unanimously, 5-0.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of January 2025,

Joshua DeArmitt, President

Eric Leugers, Secretary