

# MINUTES

Lane Economic Committee  
Lane Council of Governments  
859 Willamette Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Eugene, Oregon

October 18, 2010 – 11:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Rob Scoggin, Chair; Lawrence Brice, DeAnn Cherbas, Chuck Forster, Mike Galvin, Greg Rikhoff, Robin Scott, John Sullivan, Mike Sullivan, Ellen Teninty, *members*; Jay Bozievich, *ex officio* member; Barry Miller, Tony McCowan, Howard Schesser, alternate members.

Steve Dignam (LCOG).

ABSENT: Pat Albright, Mike Blommé, Bill Fleenor, Philip Hudspeth, Jacque Morgan, John Tamulonis, Lynnette Wikstrom, *members*; Deb Schmidt, Kari Westlund, *ex officio members*.

GUESTS: Dan Herbert, Glenda Poling, Kristin Sanger, Patricia Skipper.

Rob Scoggin called the meeting of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Lane Economic Committee (LEC) to order at 11:35 a.m. He invited those who were present to introduce themselves. He determined that there was no one present wishing to contribute Public Comment and said that he had no special Chairperson's Report.

## 1. Staff Comments

Steve Dignam reported that the terms of the following members would expire at the end of the year: Rob Scoggin, John Sullivan, Ellen Teninty, and Lynnette Wikstrom. He said public announcement would be made of the vacancies and volunteers recruited for appointment/reappointment to the positions.

## 2. Minutes

*John Sullivan moved, seconded by Michael Galvin, to accept the minutes of the June 21, 2010, meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0, Ellen Teninty having not yet joined the meeting.*

*Greg Rikhoff moved, seconded by Mr. Galvin, to accept the minutes of the September 20, 2010, meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0.*

## 3. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Mr. Dignam reported that the LCOG Board of Directors had approved the Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and that it had been adopted by the Cascades West Economic Development District.

Mr. Dignam also reported that, at the meeting in which the Board had approved the CEDS, conversations had been held with members of the Lane County delegation to the State Legislature. He said the Assembly Representatives and Senator had expressed interest in receiving LCOG positions on pending legislation and proposed that preferred economic development perspectives be included. He referred to an excerpt of the CEDS distributed as Agenda support material and suggested it could be culled for economic development priorities.

Members discussed the proposal, appeared to be generally supportive, and offered various suggestions for development of the priorities. Lawrence Brice, Chuck Forster, Mike Sullivan, Rob Scoggin, and Barry Miller, with the possible addition of additional absent members, volunteered to serve as a subcommittee to develop a short list of economic development legislative priorities to recommend to the LEC to pass on to the LCOG Board.

#### **4. Economic Development in Eugene**

Mike Sullivan made a presentation on economic development activity in the City of Eugene. He described partnerships in property development planning efforts. He emphasized the value and importance of comprehensive planning. He reported on development efforts supported by the Business Development Fund of the City – Ninkasi Brewing Company, Shelton-Turbull Printers, Floragenics, and Arcimoto. He reviewed projects utilizing City Urban Renewal and Downtown Plan resources – Beam Redevelopment, Bennett Redevelopment, Lane Community College, and Inn at the Fifth Street Market.

Members discussed the presentation.

#### **5. City Club Research Project**

Mr. Dignam referred to a research publication entitled “Tracking the Role of Local Government in Economic Development” prepared by members of the Eugene City Club.

City Club member Dan Herbert explained that the research had attempted to answer the question, “Can a small group of reasonably intelligent people understand the who, what, and how of economic development in Eugene.” He said the report attempted to categorize special activities, undertaken by public and private groups to promote economic development. He described the difficulties of being comprehensive in its preparation.

City Club member Patricia Skipper summarized findings of the research: successful development only occurs in a regional context; coordinating groups include the Metro Partnership, City Department of Economic Development, Work Force Partnership, LEC, Lane County, and various nonprofits exist, but that an “umbrella” focusing on economic development needed to be created. She said existing programs included those focused on Urban Renewal, Loans, Tax Exemptions, and Partnerships.

Mr. Herbert pointed out that quality of life and standard of living were missing in economic development strategies of the CEDS. He reviewed recommendations developed in the research, emphasizing the need for an explicit definition of economic development and creation of overall goals and measurable objectives. He referred to three City of Eugene “alternative approaches” for economic development identified in the report of the research.

Members discussed the research and appeared to agree that it had applicability to more than the City of Eugene.

Mr. Scoggin announced that the next meeting was scheduled for November 15, 2010,

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

*(Recorded by Dan Lindstrom)*