

**EDEN STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**May 8, 2020**

A special meeting of the Eden Strategic Planning Commission was held on Friday, May 8, 2020, at 8:00 A.M. by Zoom.

Members present: Hope G. Bogaert  
Sandra Meadows  
Ed Wilson  
Christy Hensley  
Sarah G. Heston  
James Burnette  
Houston Barrow  
Gerri Hunt  
John LeSueur

Members absent: Edgar Robertson  
Angela Fowler  
Mitch Abernathy

Staff Present: Phil Hunnicutt, Councilman  
Terry Shelton, Interim City Manager  
Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning & Inspections  
Mike Dougherty, Director of Economic Development  
Johnny Farmer, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Cindy Adams, Coordinator of Tourism & Special Events  
Randy Hunt, Main Street Manager  
Debra M. Madison, Local Codes Administrator/GIS Analyst

\*Excused

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Jim Burnette called the meeting to order.

**2. Roll Call**

Jim identified everyone signed into Zoom and established a quorum.

**3. Set Meeting Agenda**

Jim Burnette added 2 items to the distributed Agenda. (1) Conflict of Interest Statement to be added to all future agendas and (2) Terry Shelton will speak about the budget. Houston Barrow made a motion to set the meeting agenda.

Jim explained to the board members that during this meeting all votes would have to be taken individually. He will call on the board members in alphabetical order to vote.

Jim took an individual roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Minutes**

Jim took an individual roll call vote and the minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **5. Terry Shelton**

Interim City Manager, Terry Shelton, provided information on how COVID-19 has affected the current budget and the upcoming 2020/2021 budget. The revenue has been impacted by the lack of sales tax being collected, the motor vehicle taxes being postponed for several months, the unemployment of property owners may impact the collection of personal and real property taxes, the occupancy tax being collected by hotels are down and water accounts have been granted a 6 month extension. The full impact may not be felt until January or February of 2021.

Terry further advised the commission that, in preparing the 2020/2021 budget, he had cut \$125,000 from the SPC budget line. The request for next year, if approved by the City Council, will be \$175,000. He plans to propose to the Council that they create a Revenue Fund for the SPC so that whatever funds are left in the SPC line item be carried over to the next year's budget and utilized at that point.

#### **6. Conflict of Interest**

Jim read the following statement: According to the City of Eden Ordinance, as a member of this Commission, you have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest. Looking at the agenda for today's meeting, does anyone know or believe that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know no.

Hearing none, we will move forward with the meeting.

#### **7. Financial Report**

Jim reviewed the Financial Report that had been distributed to the Commission members and updated the status of the projects. He also identified funds that needed to be carried over to the next budget year.

#### **8. Old Business**

Jim provided an update on projects discussed at the previous meetings.

Jess Burchell Drive Mural – Randy has decided to wait on this project.

636 Washington Street Façade Grant – Has not been resubmitted. Architect has been delayed in getting the plans. The developer has asked that we put our emphasis on the old hotel instead of 636 Washington Street.

Eden License Plate – Plan to wait until later.

Farmers Market Purchase – Mike reported that they thought it was probably not the best use of City funds at this time.

Houston Barrow asked if there had been any progress on the specifics of the façade grant as requested at the last meeting. Mike reported that it was the same but they plan to move forward.

Christy Hensley and Ed Wilson asked for an update on the Nantucket Mill project and façade grant. Mike and Kelly provided an update on the status of the funding and grant applications being filed by the developer.

## **9. New Business**

1. Nantucket Mill Project - **\$50,000** be allocated to the project and carried over to next year. **A roll call vote was taken and this project was approved unanimously.**

2. Angela Fowler is no longer with the Chamber. Jim asked that her position be held for the next Chamber President. **A roll call vote was taken and this was approved unanimously.**

3. Smith River Greenway Benches - **\$17,602.10**. **A roll call vote was taken and this project was denied unanimously.** This request was to replace the benches currently on the greenway. The Commission thought that only the deteriorated benches should be replaced. Cindy Adams thought it would be best to replace all of them at the same time.

4. Transfer unused funds in the Dan River Trail line item to help with repairs and improvements to the Freedom Park Trail. The exact amount is not known at this time. **A roll call vote was taken and this project was approved unanimously.**

## **10. Items from Staff**

None

## **11. Items from the Commission**

Sarah Heston asked Terry Shelton come to the next meeting to report on the status of the Matrimony Creek Greenway repairs.

**12. Adjournment**

Ed Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sarah Heston seconded the motion and it passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kelly K. Stultz, Administrative Assistant to  
the Strategic Planning Commission

Attest:

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James Burnette, Chairman