

Bloomington Economic Development Commission (EDC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 08/25/2021

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Bloomington Municipal Building Council Chambers

Present:

- John Graziano
- Lisa Bendel
- Farah Sayyed
- Mike Rudge

Absent:

- Elisa Kolenut
- Jennifer Ellis
- Steven Pardalis
- Michele Reynolds
- Dominic Catalano
- Theresa Merino
- Anne Sundstrom

Meeting Discussion:

- July 2021 Minutes Approved
- Treasurer Report
 - 2021 budget was approved last month.
- Future events
 - Possible winter wonderland or other events that we would join in with the rec department.
- Restaurant whole punch initiative
 - We have only received a handful of cards. September drawing will be held and more than likely we will continue through the last quarter. We will reassess in December and decide if it is worth continuing in the new year.
 - Farah refilled cards and punches at various restaurants. The punches seem to run out of ink quickly. Comments from owners were that their regulars are using them but they did not feel it has brought in any new business.
- Bloomington Town Pride Day – Sept. 25, 2021 – Rain Date: Sept. 26, 2021
 - Set up 9:00 am. Starts @ 11:00 am.
 - John said we are currently at 46 vendors.
 - Banners will need to be hung in town after the last Sloan Park event.
 - Claim to Fame confirmed participation.
 - Rides are lined up. Not sure if they are doing wristbands but that would be preferred..
 - EDC \$'s to be used to help pay for the rides.
 - Touch a Truck to take place on Ballston Street – Mike Rudge has been unable to reach Tilcon. The contacts on file are no longer valid. He is still trying to find a valid contact.

- Dominic reached out to Ramstein in regards to a beer garden but we couldn't get it to work for Pride Day.
 - Final Town Pride Day planning meeting on 9/2 at 7pm in the Council Chambers.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
 - Tres Chic
 - Still waiting on owner to be ready but business is going well.
 - Magpie Bakery in Riverside Square
 - Owner thinks she should be ready in October.
- Social Media
 - Teresa Merino & Jen Ellis are keeping the Facebook page current with businesses & town events
- Main Street Banners
 - Update from Dominic via email: All the 10 companies assigned to me have the information and it sounded like Ting's, Princess Nails, and Wayne Bedding were most likely to participate (Brothers Auto already committed) and said they would reach out to you Elisa. Everyone I spoke to was receptive but timing for when banners would be hung posed some questions as to deadline for ordering. The ice cream shop is closing end of September and the family is retiring so they wont be looking for a sign, but lady was very kind and said a few people are looking to open in her location and she would pass the info along. The Marine recruitment office was also receptive and loved the American flag styling. The Staff Sgt. was going to investigate how and if they could participate and get back to me. He liked the idea of some local recruits in dress blues as the photo. We will see how that pans out. I'll follow up with all of them in a week or so again.