

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD  
November 8, 2022

Orange County Economic Development Office  
131 W. Margaret Lane  
Hillsborough, NC 27278

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Sharon Hill, Johnny Morris, Tom Proctor, Jane Saiers, Kristen Young, Hasan Abdullah, Barbara Jessie-Black

**Guest Speakers:** Matt Gladdek and Reagan Chandler Gural

**Orange County Staff:** Steve Brantley, Amanda Garner, Lindsey Hirni, Travis Myren

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**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Sharon Hill at 11:35 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Barbara Jessie-Black and seconded by Johnny Morris to approve the Minutes from the August 9, 2022 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Open Discussion**

The Board members who took the Economic Development District Tour in September discussed how beneficial they felt it was and we scheduled a make-up tour with the remaining members who weren't able to attend.

**New Business**

Our first guest speaker was Matt Gladdek from the Downtown Partnership. He spoke briefly about the mission and funding and then gave a brief presentation of the 4 Goals that the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership are working towards. The goals are Marketing & Programming, Clean & Safe environment, Business support and Community Building.

Our second guest speaker was Reagan Chandler Gural, President and CEO of the Alamance Chamber of Commerce. Reagan spoke about the Partners and Progress event that took place in August with Creative Economic Development Consulting. The event was very successful and seems like something that the Advisory Board might consider in the future for Orange County.

Amanda told the board members about an advertising sponsorship with WCHL radio for an opportunity to allow past grant recipients to talk about the how the grant program supported their small businesses. The Chair, Sharon Hill, will contribute by sitting on the panel during the event in early December.

**Old Business**

The new start-up grant program & guidelines will be reviewed internally and we plan to launch that in January for the first quarter of 2023. The board members were asked to provide any feedback or suggestions for additional ways to help promote and market our grant programs.

**Adjournment**

Sharon Hill adjourned the meeting at 1:00 P.M.