

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
November 9, 2021

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

Minutes

Members Present: Kristen Young, Sharon Hill, Johnny Morris, Dave Gephart, Tom Proctor, Jane Saiers

Orange County Staff: Steve Brantley, Amanda Garner, Lindsey Hirni, Mike Ortosky

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Johnny Morris at 10:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Sharon Hill and seconded by Tom Proctor to approve the Minutes from the November 9, 2021 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Steve provided an update on various announcements and current active projects in Orange County. He briefly spoke about the Long Term Recovery plan that Amanda is taking lead on for the County.

Old Business

Steve confirmed that an in-person retreat hasn't been approved yet so the board needs to have a discussion and decide on the topics, length, location and whether or not they would like to have a consultant help facilitate the meeting. The board discussed planning a couple of additional zoom meetings to discuss forming some goals and action oriented topics. A couple of members suggested forming a sub-committee or study group to further discuss topics like Article 46 funds, the long-term recovery plan and small business grant guidelines. Sharon Hill suggested that the EDD driving Tour and an education session would help any new members learn and better understand Economic Development in Orange County.

Annual Report and Work Plan

Steve shared the draft of the Annual Report and Work Plan for comments and feedback.

New Business

The board was notified that Jonna Foushee resigned. They discussed the process to fill that vacancy. New applications are being accepted online and the board will be asked to nominate an applicant by the end of February. Dave Gephart volunteered to be a new member on the Small Business Grant Sub-Committee.

Adjournment

Johnny Morris adjourned the meeting at 11:16 A.M.