



CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes of June 20, 2024

Held in the Conference Room A, City Hall

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Martins-Botelho at 6:06 PM. Those identified as present were Chairwoman Martins-Botelho, Mr. Taliaferrow, Mr. Brun, Mr. Brown, Mr. Moran, Mr. Corria, Mr. DeCrescenzo, and Mr. Leonardo.

Chairwoman Martins-Botelho noted for the record that the Commission welcomed back Mr. Brown, and that his previous meeting absences were excused as he was engaged in a temporary employment opportunity out of state and has now returned.

II. Old Business

a. Vote on Meeting Minutes May, 22 2024

Mr. Leonardo informed the Commission the Meeting Minutes from May 22, 2024 have not been completed and will be submitted to the Commission at the next scheduled meeting.

III. New Business

A. Vote on Storefront Improvement Grant Applications of Vargas Auto Service and Bead Chroma.

This item was moved to the end of the agenda. Tom Brun left the meeting for the entirety of the Storefront Improvement Grant agenda item.

The Commission discussed the grant requests and the work that has been completed to-date at Bead Chroma located at 550 Warren Ave. On a motion by Mr. Taliaferrow, seconded by Mr. Leonardo, the Commission voted to approve the grant request of Vargas Auto and Bead Chroma's Storefront Grant, noting that Bead Chroma's grant will only be for storefront improvement work that has not yet started.

B. Update on UDAG Account Balances

The Commission reviewed and discussed the balances of the City's UDAG account. The Commission requested Planning Staff to work with the Legal Department to send a second letter to Kjane & Co. LLC, Fella's Fitness, and Z&S Express, LLC for payment. The Commission also asked Planning Staff to contact the Clerks Department regarding any licenses Fella's Fitness, Fabio Figueirdo, or Noetic Fitness has or may need from the City, and note on his record that his loan should be paid back before a license can be granted or renewed.

The Commission requested Planning Staff inform Tropical Ilhas that in the event of the sale of the business, all funds owed to the Commission would need to be paid in full.

C. All Season Café

The Commission requested Planning Staff to continue collection efforts by working on a payment plan with All Seasons Café.

D. Update regarding Bankruptcy of EnoTap

The Commission discussed EnoTap's bankruptcy process, noting that both owners of EnoTap filed for personal bankruptcy.

IV. Staff Report

Mr. Moran informed the Commission of Rhode Island Commerce grant funding the City will be receiving to conduct a restaurant tasting event to promote East Providence Businesses.

VII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Leonardo, seconded by Mr. Corria, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

James Moran

Recording Secretary