

EDEN STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMISSION
May 3, 2019

A regular meeting of the Eden Strategic Planning Commission was held on Friday, May 3, 2019, at 8:00 A.M. in the conference room at City Hall.

Members present: Dana Weston
JeSie Morris
Ed Wilson
Angela Fowler
Cindy Corcoran
Joy Toms
John LeSueur

Members absent: Jen Nixon
Sarah G. Heston
Merinda Easley
Edgar Robertson

Staff Present: Brad Corcoran, City Manager
Jim Burnette, Councilman
Kelly Stultz, Director of Planning & Inspections
Mike Dougherty, Director of Economic Development
Cindy Adams, Coordinator of Tourism & Special Events
Randy Hunt, Eden Main Street Manager
Debra M. Madison, Local Codes Administrator/GIS Analyst

1. Meeting Called To Order

Dana Weston called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Debra Madison made a record of everyone in attendance and established a quorum.

3. Set Meeting Agenda

The Agenda was set as distributed to the Commission members.

4. Minutes

The minutes for the regular meeting held on February 1, 2019, and the special meeting held on March 8, 2019, were approved as distributed.

5. Financial Report

Kelly Stultz reviewed the Financial Report that was sent to the Commission members with their agenda package.

6. Old Business

Update on 1420 Price Road – An appraisal was done on the property by Davis Appraisal which estimates that the value of the property is \$32,300.00. The property is listed for sale at \$64,000.00. Kelly ask for the Commission's opinion on how to proceed.

Joy Toms made a motion that the City offer the seller up to \$32,300 for the property. JeSie Morris seconded the motion and it passed.

7. New Business

C. Project Proposals from Staff:

The following projects were supported by a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of that presentation is attached to these minutes.

Randy Hunt gave an update on Washington Street projects. Michael Carpino has purchased 618 Washington Street and 624 Washington Street. If these properties are rented out and successful, Piedmont Advantage Credit Union will provide funding for the Central Hotel project. 618 Washington Street will include a pedestrian walkway from Washington Street to the new Bridge Street parking lot. The City of Eden will lease the walkway from the property owner.

618 Washington Street - A request was made for \$27,500 - \$7,500 for a façade grant and \$20,000 to help create the pedestrian walkway.

624 Washington Street – A request was made for \$20,000 – 2 - \$5,000 façade grants and 2 - \$5,000 building rehabilitation grants.

These funds were approved by an email message sent on March 8, 2019. This information is being provided for more detailed information.

Cindy Adams gave updates on the following:

1. Grown and Gathered to be held on May 23, 2019.
2. The sunflowers are being planted today at the Smith River Greenway. The cost in future years will be less since the field will not have to be prepped each year. The plants will bloom in 60 to 90 days.
3. Trail logo for the trail amenity package. This logo will appear at the top of every trailhead sign.

4. Our State Magazine will be here on May 22 to film Eden for the website.
5. The mosaic is currently be created and will be installed on the floor of the gazebo in Grogan Park.
6. The promotion brochures have been completed and will be here on May 13, 2019.

Randy gave an update on the Mural. It will emphasize looking forward to the future not to the past. The edge along the outside of the mural will include pictures.

Kelly made a request on behalf of Johnny Farmer. \$28,000 is being requested to replace the fencing at Spray Ball Park and Draper Ball Park.

Cindy Adams requested \$2,950 for additional wire art sculptures for Grogan Park. They would be a male turkey, female turkey, squirrel and hawk in flight.

Dana asked for any questions concerning the requests being submitted to the Commission today. If the \$28,000 and \$2,950 requests are approved, there would be a balance of approximately \$11,505 left in the budget. This would cover any overages that might come up before the end of the year.

Joy Toms made a motion to approve the 2 requests. Cindy Corcoran seconded the motion and it passed.

A. Project Proposals from Commission members.

Cindy Corcoran thanked everyone that participated in the Pastries with Principals. There were over 60 people there.

Cindy also thanked the City of Eden for the Clean Up Day. It was the biggest turn out in Rockingham County.

Kelly reported on the Students in Government project that had been held twice at City Hall. The City Staff needs to provide more information on the department duties.

B. Dana ask for recommendations for 2 new members for the Commission to fill unexpired terms for 1 vacancy, Joy Toms, and Jen Nixon:

Houston Barrow by Neville Hall

Christy Hensley by Joy Toms

Geri Hunt by Randy Hunt

Ed Wilson made a motion to recommend these 3 people to the City Council. Joy Toms seconded the motion and it passed.

C. Brainstorming session in June:

Kelly discussed that Commission members had talked about having a brainstorming session to discuss projects for the next few years. Jim Burnette reminded members that they needed to think big and think about budgeting projects over multiple years. Dana felt that the Strategic Plan was created from brainstorming sessions with the community. It was a consensus that most meetings were brainstorming in nature and did not think a specific meeting was not necessary.

Jim said big ideas might include a project over \$500,000. Brad suggested a multi-purpose building that would include a teen center, senior center, meeting room for at least 300 people with a commercial grade kitchen. He stated that a portion of the \$300,000 budget each year could be used for the debt service for the building.

JeSie Morris stated that the City Staff knows better than the Commission what is needed in the City and already have ideas for projects. Those projects need to be fulfilled before the Commission starts brainstorming for new projects.

Dana doesn't want to create more work for the staff. The staff are the experts and know what the City needs.

Mike Dougherty reported that a Duke Power grant might help with the Price Road property project.

8. Items from Staff

The next meeting is scheduled for August 2. Due to several conflicts the meeting was rescheduled for August 9, 2019.

9. Items from the Commission

Joy Toms expressed her regrets on leaving Eden and thanked everyone for their support.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Attest:

Dana Weston, Chairman