



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

November 8, 2023, at 3:00 PM

www.fortlauderdale.gov/government/edab

Meeting Minutes

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Michael Stara, Chair	P	6	1
Enrique Bargioni, Vice Chair	P	7	0
Jay Adams	P	7	1
William Feinberg	P	7	0
Russ Klenet	P	5	1
Jadicineia Bess	A	0	1
Mark Giarratano	P	1	0

Staff

Von Howard, Administrative Supervisor (Present)

Melissa Mata, Management Fellow (Present)

Daphnee Sainvil, Public Affairs Division Manager (Present)

I. Call to Order & Determination of Quorum

Vice Chair Enrique Bargioni called the meeting to order at 3:13PM. Roll was called, and it was noted that there was a quorum present.

Quorum was established at 3:13pm.

II. Special Guest Speaker - Dylan Lagi, [MASS District](#) Executive Director

Guest Speaker, Dylan Lagi, presented on the business and economic development impact created through the arts. Hosted events have involved different businesses surrounding the MASS District area and would like to build efforts with the city to promote traffic to new businesses outside the MASS District area.

Vice Chair Bargioni opened discussion on how [MASS District](#) has created economic through the arts and how the advisory board can assist to promote the efforts.

Member Feinberg asked how MASS District can benefit the advisory board to be able to present to City Commission and allocate funding to MASS District events.

It was recommended to have MASS District work with Circuit to facilitate parking and attendance. Additional recommendation was to involve the Greater Alliance Chamber of Commerce and representatives from Sister City in Colombia to be involved in conversations with MASS District.

Further discussion was made amongst members on recommendations on how to assist MASS District. There was a consensus to create a presentation for the City Commission to allocate \$5,000 in funding to MASS District. Presentation of Dylan Lagi will be sent to advisory members.

III. New Business

Member Russ Klenet opened a discussion on how the advisory board can present economic development



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recommendations to the City Commission.

Members discussed the groundbreaking of the Federal Courthouse, the hold of residential projects, the increase of real estate, the allocation of the new City Hall building, and the complications of the flightpath. The discussions focused on the economic impact of each project. Members would like to be considered in the land design of the new City Hall.

Director Daphnee Sainvil stated that the design on the new City Hall was appointed to the Infrastructure Taskforce for land use recommendations.

A motion was made to have a map available for the advisory board for next meeting with the following Fort Lauderdale Downtown boundaries:

“North to Sunrise, South to Himmarshee Street, East to US1; and West to 7th Avenue”

Motion is for EDAB members to consider different components for best economic development recommendations and opportunities of all properties shown in the proposed boundary. Members came to agreement of a potential invitation of an expert to be present in the subsequent meeting. Motion was moved by Chair Stara and seconded by Member Russel Klenet.

Division Report

Director, Daphnee Sainvil, provided the following announcements:

- Himmarshee Street Open House on November 13th, 4pm – 6pm. The Open House will be to gather public input to strategize on ideas to revitalize the street. City Staff will send the invitation to Advisory Members.
- Minority Business Expo hosted by Urban League on Saturday, November 11. Advisory members were invited to attend the business expo to learn from local minority businesses in Broward County.
- Advisory members were invited to participate in the Start Up FTL 2024 program. The program is to provide Juniors and Seniors from High School Professional Development opportunities and Summer internships. City Staff will send flyer to members with additional information. Advisory members can contact Director Daphnee Sainvil or Chief Education Officer, Zoie Saunders if interest in hosting a summer intern.
- The City of Fort Lauderdale Public Affairs Division will be initiating the Kauffman Program. The program is to teach businesses the fundamentals to be successful. Director requests Advisory Board to assist in promoting the program once it starts in 2024.

EDAB Requests and Suggestions

The Advisory Board suggested the following items:

- Members would like to receive the Case River Study reports and the appropriate links of the tunnel



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discussion from Commission Meeting November 7, 2023.

- Members would like to receive a list of requirements to be appointed to serve in the EDAB Board. Members suggested Contractor, Debbie Wanto, as a potential candidate for the EDAB Board.

Response to EDAB Requests

Below is information provided per Advisory Member's request:

- Case River Study Reports are attached and may be found in the [Agenda of the City Commission Conference Meeting from November 7th, 2023](#). Additionally, the tunnel discussion can be found in [HERE](#) between 00:25:10 – 03:26:40.
- Ordinance of appointing members to an Advisory Board can be found in [Ordinance No. C-18-36](#)
- Link to [GIS City of Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Area](#)

Motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Member Feinberg and seconded by Vice Chair Bargioni. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 3:27 PM.

The next EDAB meeting will be December 13, 2023 at DSD Building

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.