



Aurora Economic Development Corporation

Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Date & Time:	October 10, 2023 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location:	Zoom (Virtual)
Attendees:	Marilee Harris (Chair), Nancy Brndiar, Councillor Rachel Gilliland, Tim Hammill, Nima Khadem Mohtaram, Mae Khamissa, and Sandra Ferri (Aurora Chamber of Commerce).
Regrets:	Steve Hinder, Craig Youdale, Richard Gong, Keith Loo, Mayor Tom Mrakas, and Doug Nadorozny
Staff:	Lisa Hausz, Angela Haynes, and Marco Ramunno

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

We would like to start by acknowledging that the Anishinaabe lands on which we live and work are the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island. Aurora is part of both Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties. We acknowledge and thank them for sharing this land with us. The Town of Aurora has the important responsibility of the stewardship of this land now and into the future.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve: Nima K. M.
- Motion seconded: Mae K.
- Passed

3. Declarations of Conflict

None

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation(s)

- THAT the previous minutes from September 6, 2023 meeting be approved.
- Motion to approve: Tim H.
- Motion seconded: Nima K. M.
- Passed



5. Chair's Address

Marilee Harris, Chair

6. Regular Business

6.1 Communications

6.1.1 BIA Update (5 mins)

Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy

Beveridge Marketing Presentation

- Presentation was based on local business engagement
 - Will ask Beveridge Marketing to share the presentation with the AEDC Board.

6.2 Advocacy

6.2.1. Aurora Chamber Update (5 mins)

Sandra Ferri, President & CEO, Aurora Chamber of Commerce

Celebrity Sports Dinner

- Raised enough funds to support the Chamber's 2024 Business Engaging Youth & Scholarship Program.
- 180 guests
- Next event scheduled for June 2024
- Coincides with scholarship awards

Business Awards

- Chris Neal, co-owner of Neal Brothers Food was the keynote speaker.

Business Summit

- November 15, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Stonehaven Banquet Hall
- This year's annual summit, *DRIVE* is dedicated to driving innovation and fostering success in the business world.

7. Action Items Update

7.1 2023 Economic Development Work Plan update (10 mins)

Nima Khadem Mohtaram, AEDC Board Member

Aurora Economic Development Strategy

- Met with local business sectors regarding key challenges and main asks of the Town.
- Defined four themes:



1. Innovation Hub / Incubator / Accelerator
 2. Local Business Support
 3. Downtown Promenade / Revitalization
 4. Marketing & Storytelling
- Each theme represents an Action Teams
 - Each Action Team has one/two Leads

8. Other Business

8.1. Governance Update (10 mins)

Patricia De Sario, Director, Corporate Services/Town Solicitor

- Moved to November 2023

8.2. Board Member Recruitment (10 mins)

Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy

- Reviewed Excel document regarding “Timing”

Suggestions:

Marilee H. suggests beginning Board Recruitment now as it is getting hard to secure quorum.

Tim H. agrees with recruiting now as opposed to later.

Recommendation (Marilee H.)

THAT the recruitment of at least five (5) Board members be initiated.

- Motion to approve: Rachel G.
- Motion seconded: Mae K.
- Passed

9. Next Meeting

AEDC Board Meeting & Holiday Mixer

Holland Room, Town of Aurora / Offsite Mixer location TBC

December 12, 2023

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

10. Closed Session

Marilee Harris, Chair



11. Adjournment

Recommendation

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

- Motion to approve: Mae K.
- Motion seconded: Rachel G.
- Passed