

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 27, 2012 Minutes  
1:00p.m. – Conference Room 4

Committee Members Present: Richard Cyr, Jim Gant,  
John Salazar, Terry Ennis

Absent: Tom Lennox, Peter Parrott  
Councilman Bill Harkins, *Ex-Officio*

Others: Bill Ferguson, Town Council  
Jim Collett  
Charlie Brown  
Tom Barnwell  
Eleanor Lightsey O’Key, LowCountry InsideTrack, Ltd  
Jocelyn Metzger Steigar, Government Affairs Director

Town Staff Present: Charles Cousins, Director of Community Development  
Shawn Colin, Comprehensive Planning Division Manager

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**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Gant called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**2) FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

Public notification of this meeting has been published, posted and mailed in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and Town of Hilton Head Island requirements.

**3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Economic Development Committee minutes of June 20, 2012 were approved as presented.

**4) NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Gant stated that he recrafted the functions for this economic renewal entity. Those in attendance discussed the list of major functions for the economic renewal on Hilton Head Island. The list contains seven items with additional bullets.

The top two items started the discussion off regarding visibility and then coordination with other agencies and jurisdictions.

Skills & Capabilities: a few attributes of a full-time leader for this group.

- strong communication skills,
- team work skills,
- leadership,
- networking,
- strong previous business experience

Councilman Bill Ferguson stated that he wanted to remind this committee that there is still another part of Hilton Head Island - the native island community. Where does it fit in as far as redevelopment? Chairman Gant stated that to the extent we have an entity focused on attracting business to the island then the availability of where to locate them is important; existing building or vacant land. A lot of this committee's charter pointed at redevelopment rather than new development. We should look at the role of this entity for commercially undeveloped space.

Mr. Tom Barnwell stated that when the entity is formed, the need to broaden this community must include the native island community.

Mr. Richard Cyr stated that the Town is a key critical player. An advisory committee is valuable but the leadership should come from the Town. The Town needs to set goals, direction and oversee.

Mr. Shawn Colin outlined several approaches to economic development. One approach would be an economic entity housed within the Town that is focused on economic development. This approach would satisfy the single point of entry, transparency and have an identifiable resource for economic development. Other jurisdictions have an economic development corporation that is primarily composed of volunteers, with areas of expertise and specific criteria.

Chairman Gant stated that he will make the necessary changes to the functions list based on today's input and send it out to the members next week.

**5) ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Submitted by Eileen Wilson

Approved by: July 11, 2012  
Jim Gant, Chairman