

MEETING MINUTES
PORTSMOUTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

June 3, 2005

at Pannaway Technologies Office

7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Dana Levenson, Chairman, William Gladhill, Cliff Taylor, John Hynes, Edward Hayes, Robin McIntosh, John P. Bohenko; City Manager
Members Excused: Everett Eaton, Paul Harvey Sr., Mark Simpson
Members Absent: Scott Pafford
Staff present: Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Program Manager

Minutes

Commissioner Hynes moved and Commissioner Hayes seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

Updates

Northern Tier Update

1. Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center Expansion – 4th HDC work session was held on June 1. Project program now has 207 rooms, 21 condos and 769 parking spaces. The additional rooms will require a variance from BOA. Site Feasibility Study is ongoing and slated for completion on July 20, 2005.
2. Save Our Shipyard – An enormously successful BRAC site visit rally was held June 1st. Thousands of workers and supporters attended. Congressional representatives are currently reviewing closure list data. Next step is the July 6, 2005 presentation to the BRAC in Boston.
3. City/Chamber partnership was approved by the City Council on May 16th. The Save Our Shipyard organization expressed appreciation for the city's support of the Chamber partnership and specifically the efforts related to the shipyard.
4. DBA Update
 - The graffiti pilot project conceived by the EDC subcommittee was presented at the May 11th DBA meeting. A flyer on the opportunity will be included in the upcoming Chamber *Dividends* newsletter, which has a distribution of 1500.
 - The DBA will be participating in efforts to decorate the downtown for the Portsmouth Peace Treaty celebration with strategically placed white "peace" swags and posters in merchant windows.

Presentation and Tour of Pannaway Technologies

Pannaway Technologies President Gary Davis, Kip Lepar, Gayle Luacaw and Dale Allistar made a presentation on the Cabletron spin-off company that produces and markets voice over internet (VOIP) technology. It employs 122 people in its Portsmouth headquarters. 60% of the company engineers are ex-Cabletron employees. The company's focus is to capture the VOIP market that exists in the rural telephone company network nationwide. The company has received several awards for its Triple Play product including the recent Coolest Company by Telecommunications Magazine. Following the presentation, Commissioners received a tour of the office and computer labs.

Next Meeting

Next EDC Meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy M. Carmer
Community Development Program Manager