

Economic Development Committee

Report to Council August 2020

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our Mission Statement: The Economic Development Committee assists in the development of a well-rounded business climate to help build the Town's commercial tax base through the aggressive recruitment of new businesses.

MEMBERSHIP:

Name	Committee Position	Nominated by:
Eddie Blanco	Chair	Nelson Rodriguez
Andrea Rechichi	Vice Chair	Carlos Alvarez
Elizabeth Coto	Secretary	Marilyn Ruano
Rodolfo Blanco	Member	Marilyn Ruano
Romy Portuondo-Remior	Member	Carlos Alvarez
Vicente Rodriguez	Member	Manny Cid
Jessica Medina	Member	Manny Cid
Jorge Alvarez	Member	Josh Dieguez
Alex Castro	Member	Josh Dieguez
Neill Robinson	Member	Luis Collazo
Magaly Rubio	Member	Luis Collazo
John Tingle	Member	Nelson Rodriguez
Jose Llano	Member	Jeffrey Rodriguez
Steven Brimo	Member	Jeffrey Rodriguez

No vacancies

BUDGET 2019-2020 (\$20,000.00)

Description	Allocation
Miami Lakes Chamber of Commerce (Membership and Expo)	\$10,000.00 (\$3000 +\$7000)
https://www.localintel.co/ (Marketing Resource)	\$10,000.00
SPONSORSHIP and IN-KIND Services	Received
Miami Lakes Chamber of Commerce	\$250
Columbus Senior High School	\$10,000 of V/A services
Bank United	\$2,500 payment to Bricks to clicks

SCHEDULED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Event and Activities	Date	Budget	Attendance
Hosted our first Miami Dade County Mayoral Forum	7-17-2020	\$0	10000+ online views
Bricks to Clicks – 1 of 5 online courses	8-5-2020	\$0	TBD

MEETING AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Made Recommendations to Council to respond to COVID, which included:
 - Town of Miami Lakes send a letter on behalf of the town reaching out to all our local, state and Federal representative with support requesting more Testing Sites and petition the State to suspend the collection of sales taxes through June 30
 - We request that the Town of Miami Lakes send a letter to the local chamber of commerce and trade organization
 - Modify code to ensure that all procured by the town must be products made within the USA
 - new or pending application for change of use, allow new business owners to pay mobility fees on a payment schedule rather than a lumpsum upfront
 - The Town of Miami Lakes to support a weekly zoom meeting hosted by a local business community or trade organizations
 - Provide a \$5000.00 emergency budget to the town of Miami Lakes Economic Development Committee
 - Reimplement issuance of BTR and CU ASAP
 - **Cautious a careful Re-Opening**
- Hosted a Sunshine Meeting with the Council and Miami Lakes Chamber of Commerce to have an open dialogue about how the EDC and MLCC can work better together
- Through a Budget Subcommittee formulated a new budget to better respond to the needs of our business community
- Received an estimated \$10,000 in in-kind Audio-Video productions through David Caserta from Cozy Productions who connected us to Christopher Columbus Senior

INITIATIVES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Educational Event: “Bricks to Clicks”: A Free educational event for our local business owners to learn how to effectively create an online business presence. (Sponsored by Bank United \$2,500.00 and Miami Lakes Chamber \$250.00). Due to COVID, this was delayed, but it is now scheduled as a 5 online Zoom Meeting providing businesses with support and Education

Know our Numbers: The members of the EDC believe it is critical that the EDC know the town numbers as they relate to Economic Data, local business data and growth. We are working with the town staff and working to expand our resources to obtain this information.

Promotional Videos: With support from Brandon Diaz, the EDC has produced promotional videos to highlight local business owners.