

**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Town Council Chambers, 525 San Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo**  
**September 12, 2017**

**Committee Members Present:** Chair Brian Colbert, Rich Burns, Benedetto Cico, Andrew Galbraith, Heidi Mejia, Kim Stuart.

**Committee Member Absent:** Aaron Singer, DeeDee Iacopi.

**Others Present:** Town Council Members John Wright and Matt Brown, Town Manager Donery, Director of Community Services Mauk, Planning Director Semonian.

**Call to Order:** Chair Colbert called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2017 and July 11, 2017:** Upon motion made by Cico, seconded by Burns and unanimously carried, the EDC approved the May 9 and July 11, 2017, minutes.

**Window Screening Ordinance.** Semonian indicated that the Planning Commission reviewed the draft window screening ordinance and supported the idea, but was not in favor of the ordinance. They were concerned with unintended consequences, since the Town cannot regulate the content of the screening. She indicated the Art Commission discussed and supported the idea and offered suggestions to staff, including use of banners with a theme and contacting Drake High School art students. Colbert acknowledged the new owner of 625 San Anselmo Avenue, who has worked to install a demonstration window display.

**Merchant Spotlight:** Sophia Wood, owner of Muse, 566 San Anselmo Avenue, discussed her business and the First Friday program. She discussed the challenges of businesses downtown and opportunities for improvement. Wood and others brought up a number of ideas, such as improving awareness of the downtown area, advertisement, and signage. Cico informed the EDC of Chamber marketing plans. The group noted EDC accomplishments to date, such as the speaker series and funding the parking study.

**Open Time for Public Expression:** Brown indicated the Town could be the first community to legalize cannabis businesses and wanted to hear what the EDC thought of the idea, as the Town Council will discuss an ordinance to prohibit the uses at the September 12, 2017, Council meeting. Cico indicated he would put it on the Chamber's agenda and Colbert indicated it could be on the October EDC agenda.

**Sign Program Update.** Burns will meet with staff and return with a presentation in October.

**Fall Speaker Series with Marin Small Business Development Center.** Staff discussed three upcoming workshops and requested volunteers to help at the workshops.

**EDC Action Plan Update.** Not discussed. The EDC agreed to discuss this in detail in November.

**What's New in San Anselmo Business** Bistro Vis, 115 San Anselmo Avenue, has closed and the owner is seeking approval to change use of the space. A coffee and smoothie business is planning to open at 411 San Anselmo Avenue (formerly Studiolo). The space at 558 San Anselmo Avenue has been leased for a gallery for a local photographer. Creekside Pizza, 638 San Anselmo Avenue, may open the week of September 18, 2017. The construction work continues at 610 Sir Francis Drake, where a tire store was approved. Armstrong nursery closed at 130 Sir Francis Drake and staff has received inquiries for beer garden and nursery use of the site.

Nancy Altman, former EDC member, suggested a downtown clean up effort with merchants, the EDC and Chamber. She suggested power washing and will look into requirements of the water district and stormwater

regulations. Staff suggesting waiting until after the sewer agency project is completed. Altman suggested new holiday decorations for Town Hall and that merchants stay open during the tree lighting.

**Adjourn:** Chair Colbert adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.