

**Athens Economic Development Corporation
Board of Directors Special Meeting
Minutes for June 22, 2016**

The Board of Directors of the Athens Economic Development Corporation (hereafter referred to as AEDC) and the City Council of the City of Athens, Texas held a Special Joint Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on June 22, 2016, in the Derek Daniels Board Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W Corsicana, Athens, Texas.

Directors present: Jess Laird, Maurice Cox, Carmen Hunt, Jeaneane Lilly, John Trent, Will Traxson

Directors absent: Cliff Barrett

Staff present: Lisa Denton, Susan Jacobs

City Council present: Jerry Vaught, Mayor; Tres Winn Mayor Pro Tem; Monte Montgomery, Joe Whatley, Ed McCain

City staff present: Philip Rodriguez, City Manager, Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

Guests: Rich Flowers

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by President Jess Laird for all agenda items. A quorum was present.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None stated

Enter into joint meeting with City of Athens City Council

Consider discussion and possible action regarding retail recruitment plan

The AEDC Board and City of Athens City Council discussed the potential of hiring one of three retail consulting firms that presented at a joint meeting on June 13, 2016. If hired, the consulting firm would help lead Athens Economic Development Corporation, along with participation from the City of Athens, in a retail recruitment effort. After discussing what resources would be utilized for retail recruitment, both groups entertained the possibility of creating a shared position between entities to help manage this additional work load.

John Trent made a motion that AEDC mutually participate, with the City of Athens, in hiring r360 to lead a retail recruitment strategy, for a three year term. This would commit \$17,500 in AEDC funding for year 1. Jeaneane Lilly seconded the motion.

Motion passed 6-0

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Jess Laird, President

Carmen Hunt, Secretary

Approved _____