



**MINUTES
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Schron called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Schron asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Schron, Kelly and Byrne were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee members Simon and Stephens were absent. Councilmember Dale Miller was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 16, 2024 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Byrne and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2024 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2024-0079: A Resolution authorizing a pre-development economic development recoverable grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$450,000.00 to Blue Abyss Operations Inc. for the Blue Abyss Project located on 12 acres on Aerospace Parkway in the City of Brook Park, Ohio for the purpose of constructing the main astronaut and deep water training facility, a hotel,

planetarium, and a long arm centrifuge building totaling approximately 300,000 square feet; authorizing the County Executive and/or the Director of Development to execute all documents consistent with said loan and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Vaughn Johnson, Deputy Director for the Department of Development; Mr. Marc Drew, Chief Operations Officer for Blue Abyss Operations Inc.; Mr. Paul Marnecheck, Economic Development Commissioner for the City of Brook Park; and Mr. Tom Chema, Chairman and Founder of the Gateway Group Ohio, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0079. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Drew, Mr. Marnecheck and Mr. Chema pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schron with a second by Mr. Kelly, Resolution No. R2024-0079 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Schron adjourned the meeting at 4:31 p.m., without objection.