

**CITY OF BEVERLY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

BOARD OR COMMISSION: City of Beverly Economic and Community Development Council
DATE: March 26, 2026
LOCATION: Beverly City Hall, 191 Cabot Street, 3rd Floor, Conference Room A
MEMBERS PRESENT: Diantha Phothisan (Chair), Darlene Wynne (Ex-Officio), Zach Servideo, Dan Allon, Donna Musumeci, Jason Consalvo, Nathan Seavey, James Muse, Christopher Wrenn, Erin Schaeffer (Ex-Officio)
MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Grant, Thomas Holland, Councilor Crowley, Michael Collins (Ex-Officio)
RECORDER: Kristan Patenaude

1. Call to Order

Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**Review and Approve Meeting Minutes
a. February 26, 2026**

Allon: Motion to approve the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes. Seavey seconds. (9-0), the Council was unanimously in favor.

2. Economic Development Action Plan

Schaeffer stated that the hospital took the Major Employer Survey last week. This wraps up the public engagement portion. The consultant is now putting all of the information and data together to create reports. Within the next month, a draft will be brought to the group for review.

Diantha Phothisan joined the meeting at 6:43pm.

3. Shantel Alix Fernandez, Director of Community Building, Northshore CDC

Shantel Alix Fernandez, Director of Community Building, Northshore CDC, gave a presentation on the CDC and its goals. Since 2013, the CDC has doubled the amount of affordable housing in its housing portfolio across the North Shore. The CDC also focuses on youth development, reengaging at-risk youth in education and getting them ready for workforce management. The CDC also works on program design for small businesses. The CDC has an incubator space which is free for anyone who has a business idea, in order to test out their business model for a year. The CDC also works on community engagement and combines art and economic development. She noted that the number of incubator applications varies and the CDC is seeking a second incubator space for restaurant business models.

46

47 There was discussion regarding incubator applicants and small business grants that are available.

48

49 The group discussed how the Council could help the CDC become more present in Beverly in
50 terms of the small business support that it provides. Also, case management support to help keep
51 people in their homes.

52

53 **4. Future meeting agenda topics**

54

55 As discussed during the meeting.

56

57 **5. Other items not known in advance of the posting of this agenda**

58

59 None at this time.

60

61 **6. Adjourn**

62

63 The meeting was adjourned at 10:10am.