

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:30 A.M., on Thursday, May 28, 2015.

Members Present: First Selectman Freda, Richard LoPresti, Frank Maher, Radha Prasad, Stephen Gifford, Marc Olins, Walter Mann, Alan Sturtz

Members Absent: Deborah Moore

Also Present: Valerie Goodkin, Assistant to First Selectman

MINUTES

Chairman LoPresti asked for approval of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on March 26, 2015. Mr. Maher moved their acceptance, seconded by Mr. Olins.

VOTE:	LoPresti -Yes	Maher - Yes	Prasad - Yes
	Gifford - Yes	Freda - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Olins - Yes	Sturtz - Yes	

MINUTES OF SPECIAL INFORMATION MEETING WORKSHOP APRIL 20, 2015

Chairman LoPresti asked for approval of the Minutes of the Special Informational Meeting Workshop held on April 29, 2015. Mr. Maher moved their acceptance, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

VOTE:	LoPresti -Yes	Maher - Yes	Prasad - Yes
	Gifford - Yes	Freda - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Olins - No	Sturtz - Yes	

EDC BREAKFAST LESSONS LEARNED

Mr. LoPresti said he has received positive feedback about the breakfast. Ms. Goodkin distributed the results of the questionnaire most of which were very positive. A few mentioned that it was a little too long and to decrease the number of speakers. Mr. LoPresti said he will check into October dates for our fall breakfast. Mr. Gifford suggested that we hold the breakfast at the new movie theatre once it has been completed.

MUNICIPAL TRAINING LESSONS LEARNED AND NEXT STEPS

Commission members felt that the workshop offered good information but that their slides were too small for the audience to see. They also felt that there should have been more interaction between the speakers and the audience. Mr. Gifford recommended that it should be held at another venue the next time. The room was too small and it was very loud.

Mr. LoPresti asked what our next steps should be. He suggested that the commission provide next steps to the other boards and commissions. He suggested reviewing the regulations of each board and

commission and make revisions if necessary. He also recommended that commission members attend other commission meetings to see what can be improved.

Further discussion followed with commission members making recommendations.

PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

The Plan of Conservation and Development is updated every ten years. The last time it was updated was in 2005. This plan will be discussed in future meetings. Mr. LoPresti said that we need to establish what role the EDC will play in this plan. He said that the Plan of Development and Conservation is the document that controls development and open space for the Town.

Further discussion followed.

COMMISSION UPDATE

Mr. Mann said that Interplex, a business located on Washington Avenue, is closing in August. There will be a loss of 50 jobs.

M. FREDA UPDATE

Mr. Freda gave an update on the various economic development projects he is working on.

Mr. Freda said that there are many other ongoing projects and once they have been confirmed, he will report on them.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. LoPresti asked Mr. Maher if he would coordinate another bus tour. Mr. Maher said he will begin to work on it.

NEW BUSINESS

The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for June 25, 2015 at **8:30 a.m.**

There being no further business before the Commission, Mr. Gifford moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 AM, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

VOTE:	LoPresti - Yes	Maher - Yes	Prasad - Yes
	Gifford - Yes	Freda - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Olins - Yes	Sturtz - Yes	