

**Town of Thomaston Economic Development Commission (EDC)
Regular Meeting Minutes- October 6, 2025**

Present: Lissa Jennings, Chair; Sue Holway, Secretary; Jeff Dunn, Mike Madow, Mike Sweeney, Alissa Monteleone via phone 7:05PM-In Person 7:41PM

Absent: Matt Stancavage, Amanda Burch

Also Present: Tony Adili, Land Use Administrator/ EDC Liaison; Sara Walker, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 7:02PM

APPROVAL AND/OR CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

September 8, 2025, Regular Meeting

MOTION made by J. Dunn, Seconded by M. Madow to APPROVE the minutes of September 8, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented. Motion passed with one abstained (M. Sweeney)

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Connecticut Main Street Assessment Review: Discussion ensued

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Charter Oak State College free 5-week AI course. The upcoming session is fully booked; next session January 2026. <http://www.charteroak.edu/ai-academy/>
- B. POCD Implementation: T, Adili presented a packet of (EDC) related strategies. He suggested Commission members review packets and select some focus items. He further states he is doing the same for other departments and commissions to work on. And suggests collaborating with other departments on strategies.
- C. Ward Leonard named to Manufacturing Hall of Fame: Post to EDC page
- D. **Chamber Updates:**
 - Startup Panel: Thursday October 9, 5-7PM For aspiring entrepreneurs.
 - PowHERful Connections: Women's networking, Tuesday October 14, 4:30-7:30PM \$100 dinner and drink ticket.
 - Bowling Tournament: Thursday, October 16, 4:30-8PM Spare Time, 177 Farmington Avenue, Bristol. \$60 per person includes 3 games, food and drinks.
 - PYVOT Walk to End Alzheimer's: Saturday, October 18, 9AM-1PM, Rockwell Park, Bristol
 - Morning Jolt: Tuesday October 21, 8-9AM
 - Business After Hours: Thursday, October 22, 5-7PM; Doc Popcorn and Dippin Dots 2055 Meridian Road, Wolcott
 - Chamber Tune Up: Tuesday October 28, 8:30-9:30AM, Chamber Executive Suites, 440 North Main Street, Bristol. Meet the Chamber Team; Explore Marketing

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Opportunities; learn how to get the most out of Chamber Membership, upcoming events and networking opportunities.

Chamber Holiday Party and Awards: Wednesday, December 10, 5-8PM Double Tree by Hilton, 42 Century Drive, Bristol.

E. CT MAIN STREET:

The Power of Place: Placemaking; October 8 from 8AM-1PM. Shubert Theater: Elm City Cabaret, 247 College Street, New Haven. Members \$75. Lissa Jennings and Mary Lacillia attending.

STAFF REPORT:

- A. EDC Liaison Report: T. Adili provided a packet and presented a report including- Regional Plan of Conservation Steering Committee. Meetings 4th Tuesday every month.

Naugatuck Valley Corridor Economic Development District Strategic Advisory Board: potential for grant opportunities

C3 Industries: Cannabis Retailer no longer opening new dispensary at 2627 Waterbury Road due to exorbitant fee the State wanted. Exploring other potential retailers for the space.

Ward Leonard (Fairbanks Morse) Enterprise Zone: time for filing has elapsed.

Text Amendment for Zoning Update: Smoke Shop and Short-Term Rental Amendments.

Greenway: Town Meeting to be set due to petition to remove Greenway from LOTCIP Project. Lost RAISE Grant

4 Seasons: Grand Opening October 18th

POCD Implementation: Discussed previously

Available Properties: Nothing new

Connecticut Munciple Development Authority: Public Information Session October 6, at 6PM Meeting Room 1.

Budget: Budget looks stable

Mike Sweeney brought up the (CEDAS) Connecticut Economic Development Association Annual Meeting and Best Practices Awards Ceremony 2-5PM Thursday, October 30 at Tyde at Walnut Beach.

- B. Grant Opportunities: None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Business Relations

1. Business Recognition Event: Discussion ensued. Voting took place. Recipients to be contacted.

2. Lunch and Learn: skip

- B. Downtown Development & Parking: J. Dunn reports there is a lot going on downtown. Cross Walks are being redone by the state, which is a jumping off point for sidewalks being redone.

- C. Marketing and Promotion

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1. Website Review, Postings: New EDC email coming soon
 2. EDC Newsletter: skip
- D. By-Laws: skip

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Thomaston Greenway Committee: J. Dunn asked everyone to stay tuned to the Greenway, show up and support please. If we lose this piece, (Elm Street) we lose the greenway. Town Meeting October 22 at 7PM.
- B. 150th Anniversary Committee:
Ghost Tours: November 1st 5:30, 6, 6:30 and 7PM; \$5 per ticket cash or check; available at Land Use Office.
Gala Night: November 8, 6-11PM Grand Oak Villa, 550 Sylvan Lake Road, Oakville \$60per person
Light Up the Town: November is the end of 150th anniversary.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by L. Monteleone, Seconded by M. Sweeney to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:46PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Walker
Recording Secretary