

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 21 2022, 7:00pm

Lee Anne LaClaire (The Blue Room)

COMMISSION

Deweese Yeager, Chairman

Dennis Dressel, Vice Chairman

Jessica Tessman, Secretary

Gary Giordano, Treasurer

Alan Colavecchio

Jill Fourie

Kevin O'Connell

David Sartirana, Alternate

Shayne Deschamps, Alternate

Joshua Kelly, Town Manager

Jack Bourque, BOS Liaison

Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison

Ted Shafer, Director of Economic Development

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:09 pm by Dewees Yeager. At the meeting were Dewees Yeager, Shayne Deschamps, Kevin O'Connell, Alan Colavecchio, Gary Giordano and guests Linda Groppo, and Ted Schafer.
2. Agenda Review –Motion to approve agenda by Alan Colavecchio, seconded by Shayne Deschamps. Voted 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting: June 7, 2022. Motion to approve minutes by Kevin O'Connell, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 5-0
4. Treasurer's report: The EDC remaining budget is \$7,119.34 followed by discussion to spend remaining budget as follows:
 - a. EDC shirts for new members totalling \$128. Motion to approve by Kevin O'Connell, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 5-0
 - b. EDC business cards from Goulet Printery, totaling \$385 for 11 commissioners tabled for 2022-2023 budget
 - c. Design (\$85.00) for: Two retractable banners(\$568.20), two signacades (\$436.00) contingent on proper permissions and permits from the town, from Giordano Signs totaling \$1089.20. Motion to approve by Kevin O'Connell seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 5-0
 - d. CT Main Street Center Membership Renewal for \$1000. Motion by Gary Giordano, seconded by Shayne Deschamps. Voted 5-0
 - e. CEDAS Membership (\$150 for Ted Shafer, \$150 for EDC Commissioners) totaling \$300. Motion to approve by Alan Colavecchio, seconded by Shayne Deschamps.
 - f. Reimbursement to Dewees Yeager for manufacturer breakfast materials from Dunkin Donuts (\$53.93) and to Ted Shafer for Staples banners for Family Fun

Day (\$191.10) totaling \$245.03. Motion by Alan Colavecchio seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0

- g. Balance of 2021-2022 budget (\$5,257.11) to be encumbered for publicity campaign. Details will be forthcoming and will be spent before end of August 2022. Motion by Shayne Deschamps, Seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 5-0
- 5. New Business
 - a. What's Happening in Town?
 - i. New Deli opening at 170 Main St Winsted, Gary to meet with Deli to see where the EDC can help.
 - ii. The Gilson is planning to have advertising on the digital marquees.
 - iii. AMP Opening was well attended.
 - iv. More information will be coming on the "Slow Down Enjoy Our Town" campaign.
 - v. Entrepreneur presentation at NCCC was well attended, 6 new business ideas were presented.
 - vi. UCONN TAB program assigned an intern for Brownfield Remediation, at no cost to the town
- 6. Communications
 - a. Advanced CT Meeting 6/22/22 at 9am to talk about community investment fund
 - b. Mad River Market Organizing Office, soft opening is rescheduled for Saturday, July 9th 11:00am, at 7 Elm Street
- 7. Old Business
 - a. WEDC Planning for the coming year
 - i. Tabled until July 5th meeting.
 - b. Update on Business Marketing Campaign
 - i. Alan and Ted are holding a focus group with various business owners on 6/22 at 10:00am in The Blue Room at town hall.
 - ii. Next steps will be for the subcommittee to meet and discuss the findings of the two focus groups.
 - c. Business Visitations
 - i. Jess is the EDC liaison to Friends of Main Street.
 - d. EDC Social Media - Business in the Spotlight
 - i. This campaign needs to be renewed
 - e. Winchester Manufacturers Breakfast Meeting
 - i. In attendance was Alan Colavecchio(EDC), Dennis Dressel (EDC), Rich Dupont, Christine Goodall (Hubbell), Josh Kelly(Town of Winchester), Laura McCarthy(NWCC), Kevin O'Connell (EDC), Chris Olson(H-O Products), Ted Shafer (EDC Director) and Dewees Yeager(EDC Chairman)
 - ii. Suggested a tie in event with state initiatives inviting local manufacturers from Winchester and neighboring towns to an evening event.
 - iii. Discussed the concept of the Recreation Board connecting with Manufacturers in programs for kids. Laura McCarthy said NWCC has a Mechatronics Program that could offer 6 week programs. Tanya Risucci

- has since been in touch with Laura
- iv. Job fair at East End Park was suggested by Christine Goodall. She offered to be the point person, but paperwork and responsibility would be the EDC/towns. September as a target date.
 - v. NWCC will be offering another Manufacturing program this fall after a successful spring course. Manufacturing Processes, Intro to CNC, Blueprint Reading is starting at the end of August at Oliver Wolcott Tech. There will be a \$200 stipend, course is free to students, funded by NRWIB.

8. Adjournment

- a. 8:42pm motion by Kevin O'Connell, seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 5-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Shayne Deschamps