

Town of Winchester - City of Winsted  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 7:00 PM

The Blue Room

COMMISSIONERS

Deweese Yeager, Chairman  
Dennis Dressel, Vice Chair  
Jessica Tessman, Secretary  
Gary Giordano, Treasurer  
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner  
Shayne Deschamps, Commissioner  
Jill Fourie, Commissioner  
Joseph Santoro, Commissioner  
Kevin O'Connell, Alternate  
David Sartirana, Alternate  
Joshua Kelly, Town Manager  
Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison  
Ted Shafer, Director of Economic Development

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:00 pm by Dewees Yeager. At the meeting were Dewees Yeager, Jessica Tessman, Shayne Deschamps, David Sartirana, Alan Colavecchio, Joseph Santoro, and guests Shannon Centrella, and John Wiarda.
2. Agenda Review – Motion to approve agenda by, David Sartirana, seconded by Shayne Deschamps. 6-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: January 31, 2023. Motion to approve the previous minutes by David Sartirana, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. Voted 6-0.
4. Public Comment – No comments.
5. New Business
  - a) Updates on Winchester Businesses:
    - a. Ted visited Live at Home. Curious Cat Bookstore will be utilizing the space next-door.
    - b. Dewees/Ted visited Mad River Music and Little Red Barn: construction is underway.
    - c. Ted visited Mario's, the Gilson, and River Eatery.
    - d. Shannon: Business Mentorship offering/liaisons. Identify key liaisons in town that can best connect with new businesses.
    - e. 508 Main Street – Deadline: Feb 27. Shayne and Jess will follow-up with Ted.
    - f. Shayne visited Railway Cafe: looking to expand offerings.
  - b) Sustainable CT Meeting: There are multiple initiatives. The next meeting is Thursday, Feb 23. The deadline is April 1, 2023. The town is seeking a bronze certification.
6. Communications:
  - a) John visited the Tort Museum and spoke with Melissa regarding EV.
  - b) The Town Manager informed the EDC that Shannon and John are official EDC members.

7. Old Business

a) Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies:

- Dave will connect with JT's Café and Wild One Salon. JT's: Thur. Mar 9 @ 4 PM.
- Wild One Salon: Saturday, Mar 11 at 11 AM or Mar 16th at 4:00 PM.
- Fairchild: Postponed to Spring.

c) Business Marketing Campaign: Update

- The Marketing Team is continuing to meet with Josh/Ted to finalize some details.

d) EDC Spring Event

- Suggested Locations: Greenwoods Country Club, Gia's, or Crystal Peak.

e) Town Website

- The Recreation Board does not have an email system. Jess/Shayne/Joseph will work on this. Dewees will ask Alan to attend the next meeting.

f) Social Media Spotlights

- a. R&B Sportsworld – postponed until Spring
- b. Noujaim's will be set up at the Rooted Market on March 1<sup>st</sup>

8. Adjournment – 8:21 pm motion by Alan Colavecchio, seconded by David Sartirana. Voted 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Tessman