

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

Tuesday, January 3, 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
Kevin O'Connell, Alternate
Joseph Santoro, 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 Dennis Dressel. At the meeting was Dennis Dressel, Jessica Tessman, Gary Giordano, David Sartirana, Joseph Santoro, Shayne Deschamps and guests Ted Shafer and Shannon Centrella.
2. Agenda Review – Add Welcome Sign under Old Business. Motion to approve agenda by, David Sartirana, seconded by Shayne Deschamps. 6-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: December, 20, 2022. Motion to approve the meeting by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 6-0.
4. Treasurers Report: The WEDC has a remaining balance of \$7,031.43.

5. New Business

What's Happening in Town?

a) Winsted Business Updates:

- Ralph Nader: A new Town Newspaper is in the works - Winsted Citizen. Dave will connect with Ralph and invite him to an EDC meeting. Dennis will connect with Alan.
- Josh will attend the January 17th EDC Meeting.
- New Businesses in Winsted
 - Town is evaluating the RFP Responses; 108 E Lake Street investigation.
 - Potential new businesses coming soon! Two possible bakeries, bookstore, bubble tea.
 - JT's Café officially opened.

b) Goals for the EDC 2023 Year:

- a. Top Priority: marketing plan, continuation of business visitations, networking events, and a suggestion to host a strategic planning session. Suggested start time: 6PM.

- c) Spring 2023 Evening Event: Keynote speaker – partner with banks and economic development officials.
- 6. Communications: No communications reported.
- 7. Old Business:
 - a) Town Website:
 - Still under renovation.
 - b) Winchester Manufacturers Breakfast:
 - The Breakfast will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 from 7:45 AM - 9:00 AM. The location will be at the Tort Museum.
 - Suggestion: Host a larger quarterly Manufacturers Meeting to invite other Town Manufacturers. Include hybrid meetings.
 - c) Welcome to Winsted Sign:
 - Gary and Tom completed the Grant Application for the Sign. The EDC requests that we include a picture of the old signage. Gary will submit the application.
 - d) Winchester/Winsted Business Visitations:
 - Gianni's Deli: Has interest in business grants due to a Stove/Oven complication.
 - e) Business in the Spotlight: Winsted YMCA is very interested in a spotlight. Jess crafted a Social Media Marketing plan for Jan, Feb and March.
- 8. Adjournment – 8:12 pm motion by Shayne Deschamps, seconded by Joseph Santoro. Voted 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman