

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

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 7:00 PM

The Blue Room

COMMISSIONERS

Deweese Yeager, Chairman
Dennis Dressel, Vice Chair
Jessica Tessman, Secretary
Gary Giordano, Treasurer
Alan Colavecchio, Commissioner
Kevin O'Connell, Commissioner
Jill Fourie, Commissioner
Joseph Santoro, Alternate
David Sartirana, Alternate
Shayne Deschamps, 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 Dennis Dressel. At the meeting was Dennis Dressel, Jessica Tessman, Jill Fourie, Gary Giordano, Joseph Santoro, and guests Ted Shafer, Linda Groppo, John Wiarda and Cash Pac.
2. Agenda Review – Add Welcome to Winsted/Winchester Sign under Old Business. Motion to approve agenda by, Joseph Santoro, seconded by Gary Giordano. 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: November 1, 2022. Motion to approve the meeting by Joseph Santoro, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0.
4. New Business
What's Happening in Town?
 - a) Town of Winchester/Winsted Updates
 - Federal Brownfield Grant: The University of Connecticut collaborated with the Town of Winchester. Findings will be released soon.
 - Town Newsletter discussion. Suggestion to invite Ralph Nader to an EDC meeting.
 - Ted/Recruitment: Yoga studio, bookstore, bakery/coffee interest, axe-throwing. 10 Bridge Street movement.
 - Ted/Networking: A developer contacted Ted.
 - b) A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held at River Eatery on Friday, November 11. A Facebook post will be up soon to highlight the event.
 - a. Suggested Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies: Fairchild, Gianni's Deli, Real Estate Company.
 - c) The Town of Winchester Website is currently under construction.

5. Communications: No communications reported.
6. Old Business:
 - a) Welcome to Winsted/Winchester Signage:
 - a. Cost of signage: \$4,200.
 - b. Signage Details: 4x6' single sided, carved "Welcome" sign.
 - c. Logo – In discussion.
 - b) Update on Marketing Campaign:
 - a. Ted will follow-up with Alan.
 - b. A Logo will be presented to the Board of Selectman for town slogan/logo.
 - c) Business Visitations and Business in the Spotlight:
 - Dennis visited Fairchild Industries.
 - Upcoming Social Media Posts: River Eatery; EDC event; Introduction to EDC Commissioners.
 - Commissioners should send their pictures and biographies to Jess (written in 3rd person).
 - d) WEDC Person of the Year:
 - Potential collaboration with Whiting Mills and Railway Café.
 - Commissioners should come prepared with Business Owner suggestions for the next meeting.
 - Decide on criteria.
 - Discussion of the EDC collaborating with the Chamber: Politician Breakfast Q&A event. Suggestion to invite John Larson.
7. Adjournment – 7:48 pm motion by Joseph Santoro, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman