

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

Tuesday, October 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

Joseph Santoro, Commissioner

Shannon Centrella, 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, Dennis Dressel, Jessica Tessman, Alan Colavecchio, Gary Giordano, Shannon Centrella, Shayne Deschamps and guests Ted Shafer, Linda Groppo, Joshua Kelly and Bob Geiger.
2. Agenda Review –Motion to approve agenda by, Alan Colavecchio, seconded by Dennis Dressel. 7-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: September 19, 2023. Motion to approve the previous minutes by Dennis Dressel, seconded Alan Colavecchio. Voted 4-0-3.
4. Public Comment – No new comments.
5. Treasurer’s Report – The EDC has a remaining balance of around \$1,400. \$255 expended on Logo Design, \$200 encumbered for job fair tents, \$127.50 for logo design, additional funds allocated for four cases of water, \$50 for social media use (Facebook).
6. New Business
 - a) Updates from Josh Kelly:

What’s happening in Town?

 - i. Board of Selectman discussed utilizing the created logo to be used in a brochure.
 - ii. Discussion: 44 Elm Street (STEAP) Grant received for 44 Elm Street.
 - iii. The Façade grants that were not utilized will be recalled. A written report will be published.
 - iv. First Time Home Buyers Seminar – October 11, 2023.
 - v. Welcome to Winsted Sign – Josh will connect with Jim Rollins.
 - vi. Parking Survey – Results are now posted on the Town’s website – 215 submissions.
 - vii. Sustainable CT Awards will be held at the American Mural Project on October 17th.
 - viii. Josh is creating a handout to help business owners advertise their businesses listed on CT Tourism and Discover Litchfield Hills websites.
 - ix. Business Visitations: Noli’s Restaurant – Under new ownership; The EDC suggests to do a Business in the Spotlight feature.

- x. Regional Chamber Events – October 6, 2023 WOW Forum! October 26 – Business Showcase.
- b) Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies - Scheduled
 - a. Facials by Danuza, October 28 at 2:00 pm.
- c) Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies – Awaiting Scheduling
 - a. Ax Throwing, Earthbound Yoga, Grantville Farm, Little Red Barn, Mei Tea, Mr. Coconut, Papa's Deli & Grocery, LLC, Peruvian Restaurant, RRT Motorsports.
- 7. Communications:
 - a. Northwestern CT Community Bank – New President expressed an interest in continuing support. Suggested programs: Cybercrime.
 - b. OWTS Dean – Students are looking for placements.
- 8. Old Business
 - b) Fall Festival – RECAP – October 1, 2023
 - a. Great job Team!
 - c) 2023 Job Fair
 - Date: October 11, 2023.
 - Start Time: 3:00 pm – set up is from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm.
 - Registrations: 21 confirmed.
 - Location: The Gilbert School, gymnasium.
 - Digital Signage – being worked on.
 - Social Media/Marketing push for Job Fair.
 - Transportation – Ted needs the details from NWCT Transit.
 - d) Manufacturers Event – October 20th at NCCC.
 - a. The EDC will be participants at this event.
 - b. Time: 7:45 am – 9:00 am.
 - c. Location: Arts & Sciences Building.
 - e) EDC Social Media
 - a. Alexa is helping with posting.
 - b. Jess will send Alexa SCORE, CBIA, American Mural Project.
- 9. Adjournment – 8:34 pm motion by Alan Colavecchio, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman