

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

Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 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

TOWN OFFICIALS

Bob Geiger, Town Manager

Althea Candy Perez, 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, Gary Giordano, Jess Tessman, Alan Colavecchio, and guests Alan Nero, Carrie Stetson and Tom Carter.
2. Dewees and Ted will connect with the Town Attorney re: Charter Revision.
3. Agenda Review - Motion to approve agenda by Dennis Dressel, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0.
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: December 19, 2023. Motion to approve the previous December 19, 2023 minutes by Dennis Dressel, as written, seconded by Alan Colavecchio. 5-0.
5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: January 2, 2024. Motion to approve the previous January 2, 2024 minutes by Alan Colavecchio, as written, seconded by Gary Giordano. 4-0-1.
6. Public Comment – Alan Nero works with the American Business Media. Music festival conversation aimed at increasing foot traffic and bands. They will be hosting a Feb 12th Breakfast to invite local businesses to participate. Alan inquired if the EDC could share the E-Flyer to the business masterlist.

7. New Business

a) What's Happening in Town ?

- Potential New Stores(s) – Peacocks and Lilacs High End Thrift Boutique and Body Contouring.
- Building Official – Relocating.
- Ted and Dewees will connect with John from the Entrepreneurial Center.
- The Board of Selectmen has confirmed one member to the Cultural Historic District.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies – Northwest Soup & Sandwich Co & Little Red Barn/Axe Throwing.

8. Communications - None reported.

9. Old Business

a) EDC Social Media Spotlights

- The EDC is located on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.
- Suggestion to connect with Bob to outsource social media efforts.

b) Manufacturers Breakfast – Scheduled for February 1st

- Jess sent out the Save the Date and will send out the official invitation.
- Location: American Tort Law Museum.
- Multiple speakers will be at the event.
- Video Recording/Footage: Dewees will connect with Melissa.

c) Marketing/Logo:

- EDC Overview One Pager coming soon.

d) Spring Event:

- Suggestions: Meet the Town Manager, Early May.
- Location: Little Red Barn. Dennis will spearhead this initiative.

d) Business Visitations

- Railway Café – Three year anniversary special – April 20th.

10. Adjournment – 8:30 pm motion by Gary Giordano, seconded by Alan Colavecchio.
Voted 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Tessman