

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

Tuesday, June 15, 2021 7:00 PM

2nd Floor, The Blue Room

COMMISSION

Dennis Dressel, Chairman

Deweese Yeager, Vice Chairman

Jim Welton, Treasurer

Jessica Tessman, Secretary

Gary Giordano

David Sartirana

Alan Colavecchio

Joshua Kelly, Town Manager

Jack Bourque, BOS Liaison

Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:00 pm by Dennis Dressel. At the meeting was Dennis Dressel, Dewees Yeager, Jim Welton, Jessica Tessman, Gary Giordano, Alan Colavecchio, and guests Pam Colombie, Shane Centrella, Shannon Centrella, and Town Manager Joshua Kelley.
2. Agenda Review –Motion to approve amended agenda by Jim Welton, seconded by Gary Giordano. Voted 6-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: June 1, 2021. Motion to approve current amended minutes by Dewees Yeager, as written, seconded by Jim Welton. Voted 6-0.
4. New Business
What's Happening in Town?;
 - a) Town Manager, Joshua Kelley: Met with Dewees and Dennis. Attended a presentation on CivicLift and reported that the service will decrease annual cost. Joshua recommends that the EDC should establish goals, larger steps, keep focus, and be flexible.
 - b) Dennis provided a hand-out to all EDC members regarding employment multipliers per 100 direct jobs. An example provided, “for every 100 direct jobs, it creates 700 indirect jobs.”
 - c) A Full-Time Interim Inland Wetlands Officer was hired and will focus on development, blights, enforcement, and permits.
 - d) Ad Hoc Committees: Two representatives from the EDC were chosen to take part in the following committees:
 - Planning of 508 Main Street: Gary Giordano
 - Reviewing the American Rescue Plan Act: Jim Welton

No new information reported at this time.

- e) Kim Parsons-Whittaker, Associate Director at Connecticut Main Street Center, held a PowerPoint presentation discussing tools that the EDC can utilize to self-guide. The Annual fee is \$1,000.
 - The EDC motions to approve spending the Annual fee of \$1,000 to become a member of the Connecticut Main Street Center for the remainder of 2021.

Motion to approve spending the Annual fee of \$1,000 by Jim Welton, seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 6-0.

5. Communications

- a) Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities (ECAD) Team Training Graduation is on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, located at 149 Newfield Road. Dewees will be attending the graduation.
- b) CT Conference Municipalities Training Session: Recruiting Businesses to Town will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2021, from 11:00AM-12:00PM. Dennis will be attending.
- c) Sabrina Del Negro, Stylee Studio LLC reached out to Dennis regarding a Grand Opening event on July 5, 2021. The studio will feature summer art workshops, art parties, and more! Jess and Jim will follow-up.
- d) Business Visitations: Jim and Dewees visited the Railway Café.
- e) Jim visited Catering by Gia at the Greenwoods Country Club.
- f) Jim visited F&G Richards Jewelers.

6. Old Business

- a) Business in the Spotlight: The next spotlight will be focused on ECAD's graduation ceremony.
- b) Manufacturer's Meeting Review: Dewees attended multiple meetings with colleges and community resources. Suggestion to have a Job Board to post links in one place.
- c) Jim Welton: Continue WEDC Planning. Suggestion to order Polo Shirts for EDC members. All EDC members approve the purchasing of Polo Shirts. Jim will order.
- d) Planning Topics:
 - Shane suggested to connect with Johns Import for Top 10 Campaign.
 - Winsted Open House / Oktoberfest: Jess, Shane, and Jill.
 - Brews & Business: Dennis and Dewees
 - Storefront Contest: Jill, Jim & Jess.
 - Create enterprise Zones/Business Parks/ Explore various incentives: Gary and Dewees.
 - Breakfast Meetings: Jim, Alan & Dewees.

7. Adjournment – 8:37 pm motion by Gary Giordano, seconded by Dewees Yeager. Voted 6-0.