

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

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 7:00 PM

Conference Call

COMMISSION

Dennis Dressel, Chairman

Deweese Yeager, Vice Chairman

Jim Welton, Treasurer

Jessica Tessman, Secretary

Gary Giordano

David Sartirana

Bob Geiger, Town Manager

Jack Borque, BOS Liaison

Linda Groppo, BOS Liaison

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Called to order at 7:02 pm by Dennis Dressel. At the meeting was Dennis Dressel, Dewees Yeager, Jim Welton, Jessica Tessman, Gary Giordano, Guest Pam Colombie and Jill Fourie.
2. Agenda Review – Motion to approve amended agenda by, Dewees Yeager, second by Gary Giordano. Voted 5-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: January 5, 2021, motion to approve by Jim Welton as written, second by Dewees Yeager. Voted 5-0.
4. New Business
 - a) Dennis will be visiting Hartford Healthcare Thursday, Jan. 21 for a soft-opening. He will forward any photographs to post on the Facebook/Website.

What's happening in Town?;

- a) The Indoor Sports Dome has a few interested parties. Located at 147 Torrington Rd.
- b) Cindy Donaldson, from Red Barn Consulting, has been managing the Town of Winchesters Facebook page. The Team is currently working on a structured system for each department. More updates to come.

- c) Noujaims Restaurant: Business owner George Noujaim is expanding his business and has business plans under development. The commissioners would like to invite George to the next EDC meeting, to elaborate on future plans.

5. Communications:

- a) Dennis will be attending Hartford HealthCare's Small Soft-Opening.
- b) Dennis will be participating and attending the January 27th meeting with the Northwest CT EDC. The Northwest CT EDC asked to feature 2 businesses in Winsted. The WEDC Commissioners suggested The Gilson & Rooted Market.

6. Old Business

- a) Business Welcome Packet: Dennis will have something available at the next meeting.
- b) Storefront Façade Contest: Jim will gather the checks to be issued to the winning businesses. First Place goes to The Tributary winning \$400.00, Second to Sacred Beauty winning \$200.00, and third place going to Papa Boba winning \$100.00. Dewees suggested to make this an annual event. Commissioners will visit each business, presenting the award. Jess will create a press release.
- c) Business Visitations: Dewees will follow up with Hitchcock Chair about a possible business spotlight. Located at 107 John Groppo Drive.
- d) Jim: Suggested to create a Business Advisory Board with 6 or 7 local leaders. Following COVID-19, the Board can have breakfast meetings, or lunch discussing what they'd like to see/offer advice. Meetings can begin in Late Spring of 2021.
- e) The Business Mastersheet: Dewees stated that our list is missing emails. He will send assigned businesses to commissioners to reach out to acquire.

7. Adjournment – 7:36 pm motion by Dewees Yeager, second by Gary Giordano.
Voted 5-0.