

TOWN OF DURHAM

Economic Development Commission P.O. Box 428 Durham, CT 06422

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the EDC was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 at 7 PM, at the library lower level, both the Chair, Rick Hanley, and the Secretary, Carl Montagano, being present. The chair welcomed the group at approximately 7:10pm.

2. Roll Call

The following board members were present: Jerry Lipchus, Ona McLaughlin and Diana McCain. Gary Sheldon and Peter Cascini were absent.

3. Amendments & Approvals of Agenda

There were no amendments to the proposed meeting agenda.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for EDC meetings on 9/25 and 10/30 were approved unanimously.

5. Old Business: CERC Draft Economic Development Strategy

Ona McLaughlin moved that the list of stakeholders be amended to include those people who attended the stakeholder sessions, but were not on the current stakeholders list. Those names included Joe Pasquale, Melinda Naples, Ty Zemelsky, Laura Francis, and John Szewczyk Jr. The motion was adopted after debate. Carl Montagano to forward the email addresses of these individuals to Beth Moncata for inclusion to distribution of final draft of Economic Development Strategy.

Rick Hanley moved that we send a copy of the draft strategy to Brian Miller for his final comment, incorporate Brian's comments, and have EDC review it at the 12/11 meeting. The final draft will be distributed to stakeholders for final comment and approval at the January regular meeting, then presented to the Selectman for approval. The motion was adopted after debate. Rick will contact Brian.

Laura Francis advised the group that the 2008 EDC meeting calendar should be proposed and voted on at the next meeting. Carl will add to the next agenda.

Rick has asked for a standing agenda item to communicate correspondence to the EDC. Carl will add to future agendas. Rick reviewed two pieces of correspondence. One letter was from CERC

advising us of an economic development database that is available for us to use. The 2nd letter was from Brian Miller at CERC, asking for a status on the strategy.

6. New Business: 2007/2008 EDC Budget Discussion

The group discussed the current budget

- \$11,000 appropriated for CERC/Economic Development Strategy, \$4,000 of which has been dispersed.

- \$1,500 currently unused/unallocated.

The group discussed uses for the \$1,500 budget. Jerry Lipchus will work with Laura Francis to estimate costs around Town of Durham web site development opportunities to promote economic development, and report back to the group.

For next year s budget, Laura Francis advised that each board will receive a packet from the Board of Finance, and will be required to go before the BOF in January/February with their proposed budget. Carl will add 2008 Budget proposal to the next meeting agenda.

6. New Business: Silver Eagle Development Project Discussion

John Corona, the attorney representing Silver Eagle Development Trust, LLC, attended the meeting and discussed the proposed project to build retail buildings on Main Street. The group discussed the role of the EDC, whether or not the commission will advocate for economic development. Mr. Corona agreed to ask his client attend the next EDC meeting on 12/11, and present the economic development impact related aspects of the project, and allow members/public to ask questions.

Laura Francis advised the group that summaries of each board s 'annual report were due to Maryjane Malavasi. Rick will contact Maryjane to see if a report can be filed for the Economic Development Commission.

7. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00pm

Next Meeting: 7:00 PM, on December 11th at the Durham Library, Lower level.

Prepared by:

Carl Montagano, Secretary, EDC
860 349-1132
carlmontagano@comcast.net