

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
February 9, 2016

PRESENT: Chairman John Allen, Commissioners Kirk Carr, Mike Knudsen and Aman Singh

Guests: Sarah Marcinek

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- A motion was made by K. Carr, seconded by M. Knudsen to approve the minutes of December 8, 2015 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: None

Guests Sarah Marcinek re: 1630 House:

- The First Church of Christ Congregational will be celebrating 350 years of service to this community in 2017.
- S. Marcinek requested the use of the 1630 House to distribute water (with the 350th celebration logo on the bottles) during the Memorial Day Parade to promote their anniversary celebration.

Discussion ensued about staffing the 1630 House:

- It should be staffed during all major and/or town events: Memorial Day Parade, Fireworks Festival, church events, concert series
- Tentatively the hours should be Thursday 1p to 7p and Saturday noon to 5p
- Consider staffing the 1630 House with students needing community service credit hours
- A motion was made by A. Singh, seconded by M. Knudsen to authorize them to speak with Morgan Principle K. Hagness regarding staffing the 1630 House with students needing community service credit hours. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

CERC Seminar:

- Four responses were received after the CERC Seminar
- Consider scheduling a meeting between First Selectman and CERC President R. Santy

Unilever:

- D. Mack is still interested in moving this project forward
- Discussed status of the project, the push to get it moving, various other uses, investors

EDC Vacancy:

- There is an individual that is interested and her endorsement is going before the DTC

Town Planner/Economic Development Director:

- Discussed the possibility of John Guskowski, CME representative, working with the EDC
 - Planning and Zoning has completed the planning sequence of the POCD and now it is the responsibility of the EDC to implement the Plan of Conservation and Development
 - Discussed moving the necessary funds for J. Guskowski from P&Z to EDC
 - A motion was made by K. Carr, seconded by M. Knudsen to authorize J. Allen to speak with First Selectman B. Farmer to reassign the CME salary line item from P&Z to EDC. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes – February 9, 2016

- K. Carr distributed a memorandum re: Case for Economic Development/Planning Director and How to Fund Meeting with First Selectman:
 - Bring B. Farmer up to date on the status of the David Mack project
 - Discuss moving the CME funds from P&Z to EDC
 - It was suggested to hold the EDC meetings in the First Selectman's office at 3 p.m. enabling B. Farmer to become involved/ a part of EDC.
 - The commission would like to have copies of the Cecil Groups' Action Plan for the Historic Unilever Property
- Local Business Visitation:
 - B. Farmer has been visiting the businesses
 - The Business Expo is slated for March

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk