

TOWN OF CLINTON, CONNECTICUT



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 6:30PM

Clinton Police Department Community Room

I. Opening Exercise

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman – John May. The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call - Members Present Chairman - John May, Co-Chairman - Dylan Walter, Nancy Adams, Marc Palmieri, Antonella Vertucci, Jim Segaloff, Rob Acampora, Bob Murdock, Nicki Dakis

Guests – Dale Kroop, Consultant; Hank Teskey, Town Council President; Stephanie DiCostanzo, Dawn Jackson Madison Chamber of Commerce

Motion to APPROVE the Minutes from December 9, 2025 Made: D.Walter; SECONDED: M. Palmieri; VOTING IN FAVOR: D. Walter, N.Adams, M.Palmieri, J.May, J.Segaloff, R.Acampora, A.Vertucci; OPPOSED: none; ABSTAINING: none; APPROVED: 7-0-0

II. New Business

Subcommittee reports:

*Business Retention & Expansion – D.Walter (lead), B.Murdock, J.Segaloff Dylan Walter received a business listing from Alan Felgate, former EDC Coordinator. He and team are going through the list and culling out any home businesses to catalog and begin outreach. The goal is to have concise list by the next EDC meeting in March.

*Business Attraction – Dylan Walter is planning to reach out to a woolen manufacturer in Stafford regarding the now vacant Heritage Pt former Pepperidge Farm Distribution Center as a possible expansion location opportunity.

**Women-Owned Businesses – N.Adams (lead), A.Vertucci, N.Dakis*

Antonella Vertucci met with Dawn Jackson from the Madison Chamber of Commerce to collaborate on women owned businesses in both towns. Ms. Jackson was in attendance and is extending an olive branch to any Clinton women-owned businesses and will be inviting them to attend their annual get together next week at Donahue's in Madison.

**CT Main Street Working Group (Specifically Downtown Clinton area) – Dale Kroop (lead thru June 2026), N. Adams, B.Murdock*

The database of downtown businesses that Alan Felgate was working on remains a work in progress. The team is working on a resiliency plan for the business community in the event of extensive power outages, hurricanes, etc. The team will also work to cull down a list of priority issues from both the CT Main St and DTOP lists.

**Cultural District (State Program, includes Historic Districts, Arts, Walking Tours, Antique Tours, etc.) – J.May (lead), A. Vertucci, M.Palmieri*

John May discussed a proposal for the Andrews Memorial Theater to present to the Town Council, which would include creating a 501C3 to run the theater and attract arts, entertainment and other cultural events. This non-profit designation would open up opportunities for grants to run the theater. Memberships and sponsorships were also discussed as a means of funding operations and maintenance. The group will meet with management from the Legacy Theater in Branford to better understand challenges.

EDC liaison reports

Beautification: Marc Palmieri noted that the Beautification Committee will begin work again in the spring. He emphasized that that committee is not involved with any holiday decorations.

Parks & Rec: no report

Planning & Zoning: Dylan Walter reported that changes in zoning were under discussion to create a more vibrant downtown area. He also reported a change in zoning status for the parcel opposite McDonald's from part residential and part B4 commercial to entirely B4.

Old Business

Dale Kroop is working on a DTOP cluster to do list and expects to present at the EDC Meeting, March 10, 2026.

The next Clinton Small Business Breakfast will be held on January 27, 2026 in the Clinton Town Hall Green Room. The panel will consist of Lenders and Technical Assistance Providers, including the following:

- *Connecticut Dept. of Economic & Community Development
- * Community Investment Corporation
- * Connecticut Economic Development Fund
- * Women's Business Development Council
- * Liberty Bank

III. EDC Discussion

At this point, members of the subcommittees broke out into groups to discuss goals. Below are some actionable items each one came up with:

Business Retention/Expansion: Dylan Walter and Jim Segaloff are going to work with Alan's Clinton Business Database and cull it down to businesses that are specifically located Downtown and come up with a plan to engage those business owners.

Culture: John May and Marc Palmieri discussed meeting privately to formalize a proposal to present to the Town Council about making the Andrews Memorial Theater an Arts destination in Clinton.

Women Owned Business – Nancy Adams and Antonella Vertucci discussed reaching out to former Chamber of Commerce members to build on any work or data collection that may have already been done. They are also reaching out to the WOB group in Madison for some ideas.

IV. Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN the EDC Meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 7:37PM to the next regularly scheduled meeting Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at the Clinton Town Hall Green Room **Made:** J.May; **Seconded** D.Walter; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** J.May, D. Walter, N.Adams, M.Palmieri, R.Acampora, J.Segaloff, A.Vertucci; **OPPOSED:** none; **ABSTAINING:** none; **APPROVED** 7-0-0

Minutes submitted by:

Janice Quinn, Recording Clerk