# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

#### **MINUTES**

## of the Meeting of April 27, 2011

Present: Commissioners: Cyrus Settineri, John DePalma, Robert

Kapusta, Genevieve Salvatore and Robert Stanton

Absent: Susan Patrick

Advisor: Kathleen Alagno and Robert Gregory

Guest: Jocelyn Mathiasen, Director of Land Use and Permitting

Press: Frank Juliano, Connecticut Post and Brian McCready, New

Haven Register

Audience: Joe Agro, Andy Charland, Lou D'Amato, Tom Jagodzinski

I. Chairman Settineri called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

II. Public Comments - None

III. Approval of the minutes of March 23, 2011. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

APPROVED with one abstention

Ms. Salvatore abstained because she was not at the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

## IV. Permitting Process

Chairman Settineri introduced Jocelyn Mathiasen, Director of Land Use and Permitting. Ms. Mathiasen demonstrated three new software systems coming on line; one shows the inspection schedules and plan review queue on-line, another manages the line at the Building Department, and the third creates an "On-Line Permit Center". She said that the new permit center office would change the way we service customers. Ms. Mathiasen said that they have new customer education materials. She said there are no lines at the Building Department.

She responded to questions from the Commission and the audience. Ms. Mathiasen said that improving response time is challenging given that an inspector position was eliminated last year and they are losing a clerk position as part of proposed budget cuts. She said she is always willing to respond to specific questions and concerns.

## V. Communications - None

## VI. Economic Development Activity

Mr. Gregory presented his report highlighting Donghia's corporate move, Sikorsky's leasing of space and Western International's move to 290 Quarry Road. (Report attached) Mr. Stanton noted that he had contacted ACE and Mr. Gregory has followed up.

## VII. Business Meeting with Governor

Chairman Settineri said that with the Governor's visit to the Chamber that this item is off the agenda. He said we will be looking at another Brokers Showcase in the fall.

#### VIII. Business Visitation

Mr. DePalma said that only Whole Foods was open on Easter Sunday.

# IX. Business Survey - No Report

## X. Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Gregory said that MPI had contracted with the Yale School of Urban Design for the downtown update and David Sulkis recommended that the Planning and Zoning Board consider him for some other updates. It would be a way to funnel recommendations to P&Z. Ms. Salvatore was appointed as a liaison to Planning and Zoning to coordinate input.

## XI. Economic Development Plan - No Report.

#### XII. Old Business - None

## XIII. New Business

Chairman Settineri said that we should focus on the Brokers Showcase and set a date and location.

Chairman Settineri noted that he was working on getting the New Haven Symphony to Milford on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>. Proceeds would go to the Milford school system music program.

Ms. Salvatore gave an update on her Food Allergy Walk on the same date.

Ms. Salvatore noted that the former CT Limo site was available.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Robert B. Gregory