

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES of the Meeting of September 28, 2011**

Present: Commissioners: Cyrus Settineri, John DePalma, Robert Kapusta, John O'Neil, and Genevieve Salvatore

Absent: Commissioner Robert Stanton

Advisors: Kathleen Alagno and Robert Gregory

Press: Frank Juliano, CT Post; Brian McCready, NH Register

- I. Chairman Settineri called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. The minutes of the August 24, 2011 meeting were accepted as presented.
- IV. Economic Development Activity

Mr. Gregory reported that he has been busy with Storm Irene calls as he is coordinator for elevation grants. He said that there would be a workshop for all those affected by the storm. Discussion was held about the affects of the storm. He noted the “Best of Connecticut” Milford companies as selected by Connecticut Magazine.

- V. Correspondence

A copy of a letter from Mr. Kapusta to Governor Malloy expressing the EDC's opposition to turning over the Tech Schools to the local communities was included in the package.

- VI. Committee Reports

- A. Broker's Showcase

Mr. O'Neil said the Broker's Showcase would be held on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, at 8 a.m. at the Milford Yacht Club. Sponsors are the Salvatore Law Firm and The Milford Bank. The invites will go out as soon as confirmation of Rosa

DeLauro's commitment is received. Brokers will be urged to bring flyers on their properties.

B. Building and Land Use – No Report

C. Business Visitation

Mr. DePalma reported he had visited two businesses, Eagles Fashions and Hudson Valley Bank. Hudson is lending for rental housing.

D&E. Plan of Conservation and Development and Economic Development Plan

The Commission discussed the recent MPI meeting of owners of downtown properties who shared their ideas. The Chairman was pleased to hear that Alan Platus used Milford as an example of good planning. Mr. Platus noted that there were always activities in downtown. The idea of moving the ball fields from Fowler Field and a possible change of use was discussed. Ms. Salvatore wants the EDC to endorse the concept of moving the fields. She and Ms. Patrick will develop a proposal for the EDC to consider.

F. Anti-Blight Program – No Report

VII. Old Business

A. Rules of Procedure

Mr. Kapusta said that before any vote a copy should be sent to the Commission members and proper notice should be given. A motion was made and seconded to table the vote on the Rules of Procedure until the November meeting.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Mayoral Forum

Chairman Settineri noted that the following format would be in effect for the forum:

Opening statements of four minutes from each candidate, followed by questions, limited to a one-minute response, followed by a two-minute summary for each candidate.

Each Commissioner will submit his or her questions to the Chairman and Vice Chairman 10 days before the meeting. A list of questions will be developed from those submitted.

Mr. Kapusta will act as moderator and ask all the questions from the compiled list.

No Commissioner other than Mr. Kapusta will ask questions. No public comment will be permitted. More chairs will be brought to Conference Room C.

#### VIII. New Business

- A. Ms. Salvatore said that she would like the EDC to take a position on the Harrison's property. She said the property has deteriorated as to be a public safety issue. She also said that a constituent recommends that the former Showcase Cinema should be purchased by the City and an open type building like Fanuiel Hall is built with space leased to various companies.

- B. Tech Schools

Chairman Settineri proposed that a letter be sent to the Governor recommending Armand Cantafio and Gene LaPorta be appointed to the Commission studying the Tech School issue. A motion was made and seconded to recommend Cantafio and LaPorta to the Governor.

PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-1.

Commissioner Salvatore opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert B. Gregory