

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 24, 2010

Present: Commissioners: Cyrus Settineri, Chair; Susan Ashelford, John DePalma, Robert Kapusta, Susan Patrick, and Robert Stanton

Advisors:	Robert Gregory Kathy Alagno
Board of Aldermen Liaison:	Dan German
Press:	Frank Juliano, CT Post
Guest:	Dr. Dennis McBride and Lauren Miller, Milford Health Department

- I. Chairman Settineri called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. The minutes of the February 24, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

Chairman Settineri called for a suspension of the order of the agenda. A motion was made and seconded to reorder the agenda and bring the guest speakers to this place in the meeting.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. New Business

- A. Speaker - Chairman Settineri introduced Dr. McBride and Ms. Miller to address the Anti-Blight Ordinance implementation.

Dr. McBride said there had been about 100 complaints to date. He expects the complaint level to increase as the weather gets better. There is a complaint form to fill out. The complaint is assigned to a sanitarian to investigate. Dr. McBride sends a response to the complainant. Ms. Miller oversees the program.

Dr. McBride said there are three criteria the Health Department looks at:

1. Public Health Code
2. Housing Code
3. Blight Ordinance

They must determine which method is the most effective. Each case is treated individually. Negotiated settlements work most of the time. There is difficulty in determining ownership of certain walk-away properties.

Responding to a question Dr. McBride said that the number of complaints for a community of Milford's size was not excessive. Because Milford has a high degree of single-family ownership, there is a greater sense of pride in property.

Nine complaints had gone to the City Attorney for action and three more may be going.

He discussed several different cases. Most of the complaints come from neighbors. Dr. McBride said that he has requested additional funding for this work.

At this point, the Chairman thanked Dr. McBride and Ms. Miller for the information and returned to the order of the agenda.

IV. Economic Development Report - As submitted

V. Correspondence – As submitted

VI. Committee Reports

A. Neighborhood Preservation – Suspended

B. Business Visitation Project

Mr. DePalma said that he and Mr. Gregory will be making a visit next week.

C. Shop Local Campaign

Ms. Ashelford reported that the “M” will be displayed in the former Dunkin’ Donuts window. She and Susan Shaw made

a presentation to DMBA. A kit is being put together for participating businesses. A banner is being prepared for Mr. Settineri's building. A wall in the mall will be available for the program. Ms. Patrick is working on putting up window treatments at Harrison's.

D. Land Use and Permitting Process

Mr. Settineri reported the process seems to be in order.

E. Business Survey

Mr. Settineri will send out a copy of the survey to the members for review. Ms. Alagno reported that the Chamber will contribute \$500, UI \$500 and Community Development \$500. Another sponsor will be sought.

F. Building Numbers

Discussion was held. An existing ordinance exists. Enforcement necessary.

G. Strategic Plan – No Report

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

Mr. German said that he saw a kiosk in a Manchester mall with local information. The Commission thought that might be a good idea for Milford. More information will be obtained.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert B. Gregory