

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES of the Meeting of November 28, 2018

Present

Commissioners: Michael Lynch, Chairman; Greg Harla, Vice Chairman; Michael Crowley; Jessica Stram; Al Franke

Advisors: Julie Nash; Paige Miglio; Gary Mullin

Also present:

Stephanie Dudding, Inpopnito

Absent

John DePalma; Ani Chaghatzbanian

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lynch called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2018 MEETING

Mr. Harla and Mr. Crowley made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of October 24, 2018. Unanimously approved.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

There will be no meeting in December.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

V. CORRESPONDENCE – None

VI. BUSINESS MEET & GREET – STEPHANIE DUDDING, INPOPNITO

Ms. Dudding spoke about Inpopnito, Popcorn in Disguise; made-to-order gourmet popcorn; offers gift baskets, fundraisers, favors for events. Discussion on partnering with shops around the City.

VII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Director Nash reported on new businesses, unemployment and building permits; she commented on highest increase in new businesses in a decade. Discussion on support letters and status of self-storage moratorium.

VIII. STANDING ITEMS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. DOWNTOWN UPDATE

Negotiations with MetroStar are ongoing.

B. CHAMBER

Mr. Mullin commented on success of tree lighting event. Their next event is After Hours at Milford Bank on December 5th.

C. PERMIT & LAND USE

Vice Chairman Harla offered to invite Mr. Griffith to attend next meeting.

D. VISITATION REPORTS – None

E. TOURISM

Ms. Miglio reported on improvements at Firehouse Gallery.

IX. MILFORD MARKETING

Director Nash reported the Milford tourism website should be completed by next spring. Plans are underway for a third Milford video on Visiting Milford. Sarah Washburn will attend the tourism task force meeting in January to discuss Discover New England tour, focusing on international market. Director Nash spoke about beautification projects for exit ramps; business-sponsored areas to upkeep and maintain off I-95 exit ramps with awards for before/after, overall improvement and innovative design.

X. EDC PROJECT DISCUSSION

A. PROJECT LIST

Chairman Lynch commented on assisting Milford Alive awards for small businesses. He reported on postponement of meeting with Harbor Commission.

Mr. Crowley reported on attending an awards event for businesses in Trumbull and expressed interest in hosting a similar event in Milford. He spoke about their one-pager, highlighting perks for doing business in Trumbull, that are distributed to developers and real estate groups

Discussion on kiosks and potential for digital/app version of downtown map.

XI. OLD BUSINESS – None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

2019 meetings will continue to be held on 4th Wednesday of the month at 12noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56p.m. A motion was unanimously carried to finalize the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Diamond
Recorder