

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES of the Meeting of April 24, 2019

Present

Commissioners: Michael Crowley, Chairman; Greg Harla, Vice Chairman; Michael Lynch; Ani Chaghatzbanian

Advisors:

Julie Nash; Paige Miglio; Pam Staneski

Also present:

Joseph Griffith; Dan Rascoll

Absent

Jessica Stram; Albert Franke; John DePalma

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Crowley called the meeting to order at 12:08 pm.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE March 27, 2019 MEETING

Mr. Lynch and Mr. Harla made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of March 27, 2019. Unanimously approved.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Chairman Crowley welcomed Commissioners and guests to the meeting.

Director Nash requested a motion to move into executive session. Chairman Crowley and Mr. Harla made and seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Executive session commenced at 12:11pm.

Chairman Crowley made a motion to exit executive session at 12:28pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lynch. Unanimously approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Rascal announced plans for Milford Beer Tour event.

V. CORRESPONDENCE – None

VI. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Director Nash reported on labor data and new business starts in Milford.

VII. STANDING ITEMS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. DOWNTOWN UPDATE – None

B. CHAMBER

Ms. Staneski expressed the Chambers' support of collaborating with organizations around the city. She announced a new magazine format for Chamber of Commerce directory; it will include a QR code and digital version with ability to add hyperlinks for all events city-wide. She is open to ideas and feedback on content. Distribution is planned for September.

C. PERMIT & LAND USE

Mr. Griffith reported on \$95 million in construction permits last year. He discussed the 2022 State plan of conservation and development. He explained Planning and Zoning deals with parcels and looks at regulations while the 2022 Plan considers projects around the entire city. He commented on the need to get objective review of plans and development and expressed his interest in getting input on major projects from City departments, agencies, other boards, commissions and citizens. Discussion ensued on conditions for building approvals, cost-sharing of burying utilities and other incentives.

Director Nash spoke about EDC getting involved in pre-development to present preferred features to developers that enhance projects such as green spaces, multi modal options, public art, etc.

Chairman Crowley commented on preparing a one-pager to list project options and spoke about inviting developers to participate in EDC speaker series to discuss issues with projects.

D. VISITATION REPORTS – None

E. TOURISM

Director Nash and Ms. Miglio discussed Milford tourism website kickoff party and Make Music Day. A discussion ensued regarding getting hotels and/or airbnb involved to accommodate out of town guests.

VIII. EDC PROJECT DISCUSSION

A. SPEAKER SERIES

Chairman Crowley updated the group on the first installment of Milford EDC Speaker Series. The date, location, time and list of panelists have been confirmed and he is now working with Mr. Lynch and Ms. Chaghatzbanian on the program format.

B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Chairman Crowley briefly discussed Milford Economic Development infrastructure and how EDC interacts with other business organizations within the city. He and Director Nash will have a follow up meeting before presenting to the group.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – None

X. NEW BUSINESS – None

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm. A motion was unanimously carried to finalize the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Diamond  
Recorder