

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES of the Meeting of September 25, 2019

Present

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

Advisors:

Julie Nash; Paige Miglio

Also present:

Cassandra Schull

Absent

Jessica Stram; John DePalma

- I. CALL TO ORDER  
Chairman Crowley called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 28, 2019 MEETING  
Mr. Harla and Mr. Lynch made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of August 28, 2019. Unanimously approved.
- III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS – None
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None
- V. EDC PROJECT DISCUSSION: 2020 EDC MISSION & STRATEGY  
Chairman Crowley reviewed EDC mission, vision and goals. He talked about plans for 2020 including alignment of Commissioners roles with their skills, setting schedule for visiting businesses and strategies going forward.

Discussion on strategies included alignment and collaboration with other City organizations; working with Director Nash on QVR, bringing groups together, enhancing partnerships and organizing an annual project; visiting businesses to find out needs and provide support; promote City by circulating videos, infographic and invite social media influencers to events.

Mr. Lynch noted continuation of EDC meet and greet; he also suggested Commissioners attend meetings at MAC, DMBA, Chamber, etc. Ms Miglio talked about Chamber working with EDC on business visits. Ms. Moll commented on the letter the Chamber sends to new businesses and suggested EDC attend ribbon cuttings: Total Reality on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm; Lights Camera DJ on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 4pm and Chamber After Hours at Milford Point Brewery on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-8pm.

Mr. Franke reported on meeting with MPI to talk about their alignment with EDC goals. They are also working with Devon and Chamber to discuss their needs. Director Nash commented on needing help with beautification project and promoting programs to help businesses: MEAP, CTPTAP and SBC. She talked about potential for store downtown to sell Milford merchandise and MAC tickets.

Mr. Harla commented on downtown vacancies. Ms Moll suggested window decorations for vacant spaces. Ms Schull noted the growth of young professionals in Milford and talked about shared workspace in Shelton. Director Nash asked if MPI can fund the workspace. Mr. Franke talked about meeting with Brett at Chamber to go through MPI history, to know original intent, where it went and how they can collaborate with EDC; discussion on setting up meeting with MPI to present goals of EDC.

Chairman Crowley set first priorities to focus on business visits and collaborate with MPI then building off those two strategies.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54pm. A motion was unanimously carried to finalize the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Diamond  
Recorder