

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES of the Meeting of June 22, 2016

Present: Commissioners: Michael Lynch, Vice Chairman; John DePalma; Victor Ferrante; Julie Nash, Advisor; Gary Mullin, Advisor; Dan Kiley, Advisor

Also present: Juan Carlo Viveros, owner Fonda La Paloma; Mike Crowley, Milford resident

Absent: Greg Harla; John O'Neil; George Hunihan

I. CALL TO ORDER - Vice Chairman Lynch called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Mr. Ferrante and Vice Chairman Lynch made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of May 25, 2016.  
Unanimously approved.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT/INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS - Vice Chairman Lynch informed the committee he is stepping in for Chairman Harla this meeting and announced that Mr. O'Neil will be informing Mayor Blake of his decision to resign from his position on the EDC.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Vice Chairman Lynch welcomed Milford resident, Mike Crowley to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS "MEET AND GREET" - Vice Chairman Lynch introduced Juan Carlo Viveros, owner of Fonda La Paloma - a fine dining, authentic Mexican restaurant originally located in Cos Cob. Mr. Viveros spoke about his menu and reported on his efforts to remodel the space, adding that City departments were helpful and welcoming during the process and expects to open early July.

Mr. Kiley noted several upcoming events going on in the City and commented on the expected increase in activity downtown. Mr. Kiley commented on several networking opportunities to help new business owners assimilate into the community. Director Nash suggested Mr. Viveros attend Milford Chamber events to meet others in the business community. She also asked the committee for suggestions for next month's EDC "Meet and Greet."

V. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VI. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY - Director Nash reported on the new ShopRite expansion and new Milford businesses Bar Louie and El Bario. She announced the next CEDAS quarterly meeting, "Using Art as an Economic

driver", will be held at Milford Arts Council on July 21st. She also commented on the status of TOD interviews.

## VII. STANDING ITEMS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. DOWNTOWN PARKING - None

B. CHAMBER - Mr. Mullin reported on upcoming Milford Chamber programs including networking events for new businesses in the City. A discussion ensued on ways to introduce prospective members to the Chamber.

C. PERMIT & LAND USE - None

D. VISITATION REPORT - None

E. TOURISM - Director Nash reported the typos on the I-95 Attraction signs have been fixed by DOT. She is working on several mediums and outlets to help market tourism in Milford including a page for "Historic Downtown Milford" on Visit CT website (<http://www.ctvisit.com/listings/historic-downtown-milford>). She also commented on a preexisting page named "Town of Milford"; that it is not associated with the City of Milford and asked the committee for their help in identifying the owner of the page. A discussion ensued on marketing waterfront, hosting a sailing regatta and extending weekend hours for shops downtown.

VIII. MILFORD MARKTING PLAN RFP STATUS UPDATE - Director Nash stated she is still waiting for a start date from SHU.

IX. EDC PROJECT DISCUSSION - None

X. OLD BUSINESS - None

XI. NEW BUSINESS - None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m. A motion was unanimously carried to finalize the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee Diamond  
Recorder