

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 24, 2010

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

Advisors:	Robert Gregory Kathy Alagno
Board of Aldermen Liaison:	Dan German
P & Z Board Liaison:	Susan Shaw
Press:	Brian McCready, NH Register Frank Juliano, CT Post
Guest:	Mayor James Richetelli, Jr.

- I. Chairman Settineri called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. The minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.
- IV. Economic Development Report

Mr. Gregory noted that the City was providing space for PC Richard to conduct job interviews.

He said that he was chairing the Complete Count Committee that is encouraging participation in the Census 2010. A good count is important for the city, the state and the country.

- V. Correspondence – None
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Neighborhood Preservation
 1. Blighted Building Ordinance - Ms. Patrick reported that she is trying to meet with Dr. McBride. She hopes to have him at the next meeting to give us an update on the Blighted Building ordinance.
 2. Empty Windows – Ms. Patrick has made contact with a number of owners. She said that an artist would donate her services to make an attractive mural. This would be done on canvas so that it could be moved to another window. MPI will donate \$250 hopefully to be matched

by a like amount from the DMBA. She said that coordination by some agency is needed to monitor the program. Ms. Patrick said that there could be a number of different window treatments including the Milford “M”, artwork, or public service or commercial promotions.

3. Empty Lot – Ms. Patrick said she is hopeful that some improvement might be accomplished. Ms. Alagno mentioned that a community put up a tall white picket fence at a vacant lot. Ms. Patrick said that perhaps landlords could contribute toward the program and it could be more formalized.
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- B. Business Visitation Project – Mr. DePalma said that he had visited Salute Restaurant and they had a problem with their entrance and exit curb cuts. He will coordinate future visits with Mr. Gregory.
 - C. Shop Local Campaign – Ms. Ashelford said she is trying to coordinate the program with the Chamber and DMBA as per the Chair’s urging. She said that the price of a banner had been determined that would go on Mr. Settineri’s building. Zoning issues were discussed. Ms. Alagno brought up the difficulty of Chamber involvement when the program excludes non-locally owned businesses. Ms. Salvatore said that the program was endorsed by the EDC and that local businesses are important to the community. After further discussion the Chair said that he thought the program must be defined and then the various organizations, including the EDC would decide whether or not to be involved.

At this point, the Chair suspended the agenda and introduced the Mayor.

Mayor Richetelli presented an update on the Kimball Report Implementation that included the creation of the Department of Permitting and Land Use and the hiring of an interim director. That report is included as an appendix to these minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert B. Gregory