



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Economic Development Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 5:30pm
Held Virtually via Zoom

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Crowther at 5:32pm. Commission members Ron Jodice, Charmaine Seavy, and Brooke Freeman were present. Ex officio member Heather Goetz (Board of Selectmen) was also present. Staff members in attendance included: George McGregor, Director of Planning and Community Development and Thomas Fitzgerald, Acting Deputy Town Manager.

1) Minutes of February 22, 2023

Mr. Jodice made a motion to approve the minutes of February 22, 2023, Ms. Seavy seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2) Stakeholder and Liaison Updates

a) Main Street Partnership

Ms. Goetz read an update from the Main Street Partnership into the record.

b) Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Crowther read an update from the Chamber of Commerce into the record.

c) Zoning

Mr. Jodice provided an update about Zoning hearings about the proposed multi-family housing on Hopmeadow as well as food truck discussions that will be at an upcoming Zoning meeting. Mr. McGregor provided the group more detail about the items scheduled for upcoming Zoning meetings.

d) Design Review

Mr. Crowther said that Design Review Board forwarded the affordable housing submission on Hopmeadow Street to the Zoning Commission with a neutral referral.

e) Sustainability

Mr. Crowther said that the group is working on the Sustainable CT designation for the Town.

f) DEI Council

Mr. Crowther read an update from Mr. Earl into the record.

g) Development Projects

None

h) Historical Society Support

Mr. Crowther read an update from Mr. Earl into the record.

i) Other

None

3) Action Items and Housekeeping Items

None

4) 2022-2023 EDC Work Plan Update

Mr. Crowther said that he thinks it would be best to pause the Business Outreach visits until a new Town Manager is in place. Mr. Crowther said he and Ms. Goetz met with Main Street Partnership on the welcome letter project and circulated a draft letter.

Mr. Crowther provided an update on the Tourism Map not be included in the FY 24 Budget..

Ms. Freeman and Ms. Seavy said that they have discussed having to narrow down the list of marketing themes and will have an update at a future meeting.

Mr. Fitzgerald said that any website items can be forwarded to him.

5) Other Business

Mr. Crowther gave a thank you to Maria Capriola for her time as Town Manager and wished her luck on her new path.

Mr. Crowther informed the group that he has submitted his resignation from the group. He shared that he feels the EDC should take a step back and assess what the future of the EDC should look like.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Fitzgerald
Acting Deputy Town Manager