

**EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 8, 2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Economic Development Commission was called to order at **6:04 p.m.** on **Wednesday, January 8, 2014** by EDC Commissioner Susan Skowronek, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Present:

Debra Arrieta, Vice-Chair
Frank Collins
Pat Harmon
Devorah Johnson
John Ryan
Barbara-Ann Rossi
Susan Skowronek, Chair
Paul Sousa

Absent:

Jack Jacobs

Others in Attendance:

Ellyn Laramie, Economic Development Coordinator, Town of East Hartford
Alta Lash,

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

4) APPROVAL OF EDC MINUTES

- a) December 4, 2013
 - i) Section 7a ii should read "...\$10,000 mentioned for EH Chamber of Commerce was to be included in this budget."

MOTION by Ms. Arrieta, seconded by Mr. Collins to approve minutes as amended
APPROVED

5) BILLS LIST

- a) \$100.00 - Clerk

MOTION by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Arrieta to approve

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6) OLD BUSINESS

- a) New Business Update
 - i) Bakery on Main – 375 Park Avenue
 - ii) Nixon Laundry – George Street
 - iii) ATI Landish – Prestige Park
 - iv) Sacred River Yoga
- b) Plan of Conservation and Development Update
 - i) Ms. Laramie reported that information has been collected from all interested Town departments and Planning and Zoning plans to hold a public hearing (TBD) in the near future
- c) Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget

MOTION by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Ryan to approve the budget request in the amount of \$30,620.00

APPROVED (2 abstentions – Ms. Rossi, Ms. Harmon)

7) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discussion with Alta Lash on plan for CEDF Funds
 - i) Ms. Lash reported that she would like to explore opportunities with key stake holders in the community on how to best leverage the \$10,000 CEDF has earmarked for East Hartford. Ms. Lash, along with the EH Development Department will speak with bank managers along the entire Main Street corridor to see what they envision for Main Street and East Hartford.
 - ii) Ms. Arrieta suggested that if commissioners have developed relationships with their financial institutes; speak with them about the upcoming meeting and their role as EDC Commissioners.

MOTION by Ms. Arrieta, seconded by Mr. Ryan to approve having the EH Development Department, in collaboration with CEDF, begin discussions with local banks to discuss how best to spend CEDF monies allocated for East Hartford.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

- b) EDC Lunch Club
 - i) Friday, January 31, 2014 @ 1:00 PM – Calabrese’s Pizzeria, Main Street
 - ii) Ms. Laramie will contact the EH Chamber of Commerce for distribution throughout the business community
- c) Quarterly East Hartford Pride Award
 - i) Ms. Laramie discussed creating an award to recognize a local business for an achievement made in that particular quarter.
 - ii) Discussion was had to also include volunteer groups and possibly do one of each at each recognition night
 - iii) Ms. Rossi suggested having EDC present these at Town Council meetings.
- d) Misc.

- i) Ms. Skowronek requested the Commission take up, again, having a town map with attractions created for distribution at state venues, events, etc.
- ii) Ms. Laramie noted that the Town has the ability to post events throughout the year on CTVisit.com
- iii) Ms. Skowronek asked that the Town promote Small Business Saturday during the holiday season of 2014

8) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Sousa
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:14PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey A. Currey
Clerk

cc: Town Clerk
Development Department