

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Economic Development Commission held a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 18, 2012 in meeting room 3 at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

**PRESENT:** Bob Sharpe, Marty Gersten, Joe Humeston, Joe Tarshis, Walt Motyka

**Also Present:** Elizabeth Stocker, Director of Economic and Community Development and Robert Rau

*Chairman Donald Sharpe called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM*

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Tarshis moved to accept the minutes of the November 20, 2012 meeting. Mr. Gersten seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

Public Participation - None

**Reports:**

*Director of Economic & Community Development* – Ms. Stocker reviewed a status report by Betsy Paynter reviewing her accomplishments for the last six months. She is doing well and helpful for Ms. Stocker to have another person with feet on the ground. They are continuing to advertise the campus and put in an end of the year holiday and New Year message which will be coming out Friday's paper.

*Update on Fairfield Hills-EDC marketing plan, RFP* – The Fairfield Hills Authority and this commission have agreed that they will market the buildings on the campus jointly. They are trying to get away from the logjams that have happened with developers in the past. It was agreed that the new style RFP would cover Woodbury, Newtown and Stratford Halls. Any further RFP would be estimated based on the first experience. Doing one building at a time would be beneficial to vet any contract problems but then the issue of what building would be best. A suggestion was to put all three buildings in the RFP but only allow one to go.

*Update on economic development portion of new Newtown POCD* - The Planning and Zoning Commission are going to put the hearing off until January. There are statics and demographics that need to be updated.

*Roundtable updates: Ongoing activities: Tabled*

*Next Steps-SHU study of Business Incubators*

*Serving Newtown's existing commercial base*

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Business Incentive Program revisions and vote* – Mr. Sharpe and Mr. Song are the subcommittee members working with Ms. Stocker. Ms. Stocker went through changes that have been made to the document.

Mrs. Llodra is aware that a business incentive program is coming but she has not seen this specific plan. Mr. Sharpe feels this is a proposal that she will accept.

Mr. Gersten moved to approve the Business Incentive Program with the addition of R&D to item 3 and move it to the Board of Selectman, Mr. Tershis seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Appoint EDC bylaws committee* – Mr. Gersten is working on the proposed bylaws.

*Elect 2013 officers* – This year they decided that there should be two vice chairmans. Mr. Humeston contacted all the members. The proposed slate of officers for 2013 is;

Chairman – Don Sharpe

Vice Chairman – Walt Motyka

Vice Chairperson – Elana Bertram

Secretary – Joe Humeston

Mr. Tarshis moved to accept the recommendations as proposed. Mr. Gersten seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

Review: EDC commissioner areas of oversight for 2013-Tabled

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Arlene Miles, Clerk Pro-Tem