

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL  
131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT  
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101, LOWER LEVEL, TOWN HALL  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Karen Faust  
Commissioner Michael Fox  
Commissioner Charlene Garcia(excused)  
Commissioner David Marsden  
Commissioner Greg Polk  
Commissioner Pamela Raynock  
Commissioner Fernando Rosa  
Commissioner Clifford Stamm (excused)  
Commissioner Linda Woods (excused)

Absent: Economic Ddvelopment Director, Andrew Brecher

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2014 meeting and Commissioner Marsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Rosa distributed copies of the articles "National Welding Cleanup Needs Aid" "Manager touts 'Fiscal Conservatism', and "CRDA Hired to Oversee Site Project" as printed in the Hartford Courant recently. Chairman Rosa also reported that at his attendance of the recently held "State of the Town" annual meeting at the Newington High School was a successful event with excellent participation of the Newington High School students.. Chairman Rosa also stated that the town is expecting the State Capital Region Development Authority to provide \$2 million dollars to clean up the National Welding site, and agrees with Mayor Stephen Woods statement "to embrace it". Chairman Rosa also noted that the Connecticut Express program announced recently that the economy is improving; and that the suburbs will follow and that the larger corporations will also follow suit. Chairman Rosa wanted it to be made known that his objective in being Chairman of the Economic Development Commission is to bring in as much information as he can to aid the commissioners in the ongoing and future development of Newington.

Also, Commissioner Marsden nominated Commissioner Pamela Raynock to be Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Pamela Raynock is the Vice-Chairman of the 2014 Economic Development Commission.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Downtown Signage for Constitution Square/Market Square
- B. Gateway/Directional Signage  
(to be discussed at next meeting)

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Rosa opened up the discussion regarding the annual town business breakfast by reviewing his experience in chairing this event in the Town of Wethersfield, which he turned into a networking occasion by inviting all town department heads to attend in an exchange of encouragement, including the Town Manager. Chairman Rosa also indicated establishing a holiday season event to be held between Thanksgiving and Christmas would be more fruitful. Chairman Rosa will approach Mayor Woods also noting that by establishing a data base of businesses in Newington, and recognizing them by the preparation of appreciation certificates, this gathering would be a great source of encouragement to one another. Therefore, Commissioner Marsden made a motion to go forward with this project and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion, which was voted on unanimously "Aye". Such details as the date and time and place will be discussed and confirmed at a future meeting.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT REPORTS

Commissioner Raynock expressed concern regarding parking on Market Square for the handicapped population, especially the bumpouts presenting a possible hazard which was agreed to also by Commissioner Fox.

Commissioners Marsden announced that the Rotary Club is holding a fund raising charitable golf tournament at the Indian Hill Country Club on October 7, 2014.

CHAMBER REPORT

Commissioner Polk reported that slowly but surely downtown vacancies are being filled, however, the candy store is going out of business and all are encouraged to support the Main Street Black Rose and Hidden Vine restaurants.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Raynock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sophie Glenn  
Recording Secretary