

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL
131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101 LOWER LEVEL, TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015
7:00 pm.

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Karen Faust
Commissioner Michael Fox
Commissioner Charlene Garcia (absent)
Commissioner David Marsden (absent)
Commissioner Greg Polk (absent)
Commissioner Pamela Raynock (absent)
Commissioner Fernando Rosa
Commissioner Clifford Stamm
Commissioner Ken St. Onge
Commissioner Linda Woods (absent)

PRESENT: Economic Development Director
Andrew Brecher

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 4, 2015

Commissioner Stamm corrected Item VII, New Business "Municipal Parking Lot" to read "Constitution Square" and then made a motion to accept the February 4, 2015 minutes. Commissioner Fox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Rosa reported on recent events including the withdrawal by Toll Brothers of its lawsuit and its abandonment of plans to develop housing on Cedar Mountain.

Chairman Rosa also noted recent newspaper articles including stories in Newington Life regarding election of EDC officers and the opening of the Rooster Company and the upcoming revaluation process as described in the Courant.

He also commented on the increasing state budget deficit, the likelihood of budget cuts and the uncertainty of funding for economic development initiatives.

In addition, Chairman Rosa announced "Women's Day" would occur on Saturday, 3/07/15 at the Portuguese Club, which would include many prominent speakers. All EDC members and any other interested individuals were invited to attend.

V. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brecher reported on activities associated with the Amara Project, including a presentation at the Senior Center, a hearing at the Town Planning and Zoning Commission on March 25, 2015 and withdrawal of the application to the Conservation Commission.

Director Brecher also summarized his presentations to the Town Council on February 24, 2015, the Town Plan and Zoning Commission on February 25, 2015 and the Town Hall Building Committee on March 3, 2015.

The Mayor made his annual address about the "State of the Town" at the February 26, 2015 Chamber of Commerce breakfast, which included a Power Point presentation highlighting the many businesses moving into or relocating within Newington in the past year. It was at that breakfast that the Mayor announced Toll Brothers' decisions and his intention that the Town acquire the "Toll Brothers" Cedar Mountain property for preservation as open space.

As requested at the last EDC meeting, Director Brecher spoke with Highway Superintendent, Tom Molloy, about issues regarding Town Center parking and snow removal. A meeting with Mr. Molloy, other department heads, merchants and EDC members will be scheduled in April 2015.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Holiday Event

There was no further discussion of the Holiday Event that will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2015.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IX. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

A. District Reports

Commissioners inquired about the status of spaces formerly occupied by Planet Fitness, Michael's and Appleby's as well as vacancies at Best Market Plaza.

B. Chamber Report

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner St. Onge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sophie Glenn".

Sophie Glenn,
Recording Secretary