

Draft Minutes Harwinton Economic Development Commission, May 2, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:41 p.m.

Commissioners present, Chair Kerri Ouellette, John DiCarlo, Frank Hickey and Jonathan Sederquist.

Motion made by Mr. Hickey to adopt the draft agenda, seconded by Ms. Ouellette. All voted in favor

Following a modification regarding suggested improvements to the EDC webpage discussed during the April 4 EDC meeting, Mr. DiCarlo motioned to approve minutes from the Commission's April 4 meeting minutes. Seconded by Ms. Ouellette. All voted in favor.

Ms. Ouellette motioned to amend the agenda to move item 5 to item 4. Seconded by Mr. Hickey. All voted in favor.

Commissioners discussed a request by First Selectman Michael Criss that members attend an economic development workshop in Torrington on May sponsored by The Northwest Council of Elected Officials and the University of Connecticut. Commissioners Ouellette and Sederquist said they will do their best to attend on behalf of the commission and will update the First Selectman on this request.

Discussion on the Zoning Commission's proposed regulation regarding signs took place. Commissioners agreed the draft regulation is too restrictive and agreed to draft a letter to the Zoning Commission to request its public hearing on the proposal be continued beyond the next Zoning Commission meeting on May 14 for additional input and discussion.

Commissioner Steve Criss arrived at 7:17 p.m.

Ms. Ouellette motioned that Mr. DiCarlo and she draft a letter and circulate among the commissioners to send to the Zoning Commission by May 7 to express make the request to the Zoning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Hickey.

Under 'Any other Business' the Commission discussed the Planning Commission's May 1 correspondence to the EDC regarding a proposed removal of Route 118 from a proposed Town/Center business zone. Commissioners unanimously agreed this change would largely defeat the purpose of such a proposed zone. Mr. Hickey motioned that Ms. Ouellette and Mr. DiCarlo draft a letter to the Planning Commission informing them of the Commission's position on this issue and circulate to send forward. Seconded by Ms. Ouellette. All voted in favor.

Ms. Ouellette motioned to contact Franci Tartaglino to see whether she is still interested in serving on the Commission and if not, to request the Board of Selectman make a replacement appointment. Seconded by Mr. DiCarlo. All voted in favor.

The Commission discussed an informal request by First Selectman Criss regarding the Commission's participation in coordinating a 275th anniversary celebration for the town's incorporation. Commission members agreed that the event will take significant time to plan and are not inclined to be the lead planning organization.

Ms. Ouellette motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hickey. All voted in favor.

Submitted by John DiCarlo

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TOWN CLERK