

MINUTES

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MADDEN ROOM
SOUTH WINDSOR TOWN HALL**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 26, 2016
TIME: 7:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Chairperson Paul Burnham, Alternate David Marsh (sat for James Murray), Joseph Kennedy, Louise Neary, Alternate David Starr (sat for Wayne Kilburn), Linda Jeski, Dwight Johnson, William Jodice, Alternate John Mitchell (arr. at 7:36p.m. and sat for Susan Burnham)

ABSENT: Susan Burnham, Edwina Futtner, James Murray, Wayne Kilburn, Cindy Beaulieu and Council Liaison Carolyn Mirek

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairperson P. Burnham called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** The above-mentioned members were introduced.
3. **Public Participation:** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from Regular Meeting on 9/28/2016:

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Jeski and **seconded** by Commissioner Jodice to approve the minutes of September 28, 2016 and was *unanimously approved. Motion passed.*

5. **Old Business**

Sub-committee report regarding website updates: Chairperson P. Burnham met with Town Manager Matthew Galligan and a representative from Mayor.tv. A presentation will be made at the November meeting.

Sub-committee report regarding Mission Statement: Chairperson P. Burnham shared the Statement with the Town Manager, who read it and indicated that he will be adding/changing something in it to reflect the vision of the Planning & Zoning Commission. The Statement will be shared with EDC once it's ready.

6. **Committee Report**

Discover South Windsor: Commissioner Neary stated that a meeting has not been called recently. Chairperson P. Burnham would like to invite the new director of the Chamber to a future meeting.

7. **New Business**

Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) Training
January 25, 2016 at 6:00 pm: Chairperson P. Burnham reported that Town Manager Galligan is very happy that the Commission will be hosting this training. It is being held on the same

night as the EDC regular meeting. Depending on the response, the meeting location may need to be changed to a larger space. The workshop will be 90 minutes long, consisting of three 30-minute sessions. EDC, P&Z, Inland Wetlands, ZBA, a Chamber representative, and the Rotary will be extended an invitation. A snow date in February is already scheduled. The presentation will be recorded and available for viewing through the Town TV channel. The evening will include presentations and more, Chairperson P. Burnham apologized for not having the workshop agenda with him tonight. The event is free and will help this commission, and others, promote South Windsor.

8. Communications and Remarks

Report from Paul Burnham, Chairperson: Chairperson P. Burnham reported on the following:

- P&Z held off on voting to approve the Star Center application due to the building's aesthetics and the sale of firewood on the adjacent property. A vote will be taken at the November 15, 2016 meeting. Chairperson P. Burnham will send a letter of EDC support of the project to P&Z and also encouraged commission members to attend the P&Z meeting to speak in support of the application.
- A joint application between the town and dck (a developer) was submitted for a casino off of I-291. If the project moves forward, the minimum annual return for the town is \$3 million. Some commission members expressed their concerns about locating a casino in South Windsor. Chairperson P. Burnham encouraged commission members to contact the Town Council to express their concerns. Commissioner Marsh shared that he grew up near the Foxwoods casino and saw the positive impacts to the host and surrounding towns. Commissioner Kennedy believes that the casino is just a stop-gap action to keep money within Connecticut. Chairperson P. Burnham asked if the commission would like Town Manager Galligan to hold a December meeting for an update and members indicated interest.
- Panera should be open in November, they are currently hiring and training new employees.
- Craft Brewery is moving along but he is not sure when it will be open.
- Gin distillery buildings are up and they are planning to open by the end of the year.
- Buckland Road project may not have any tenants yet.

9. General Discussion

Next Meeting is scheduled for **November 16, 2016** at 7:30 p.m. in the **Sprenkel Room**.

- 10. Adjournment:** A **motion** was made by Commissioner Neary and **seconded** by Commissioner Jodice to adjourn at 8:06pm and was *unanimously approved. Motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Potter
Clerk

Approved: November 16, 2016