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**Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2012**

- Members Present:** Joseph Mirra, Chairman
Richard Nunn, Vice-Chair
Mark Gingras
Rosemarie Preneta
Jim Wolfe
- Members Absent:** Tom Collette
Gary Fappiano
- Others Present:** Don Roe, Ec. Dev. Coord.
Doreen DeSarro
Lynn Wolff, Secretary
Richard Lopresto, EDC Chairman, No. Haven
Luther Turmelle, NH Register

Chairman Joe Mirra called the meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Lopresto, North Haven EDC Chairman, was introduced to the EDC and the EDC introduced themselves to him. Mr. Lopresto said he is here to observe our Commission.

- 1. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes, dated May 7, 2012 – Dick Nunn made a motion to approve the May 7, 2012 regular meeting minutes as drafted; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**
- 2. Review of April Expenditure Report 2011-12 – Don Roe said that staff prepared an accounting of projected underruns through the end of June. The secretary read the figures for each account, with a total underrun estimated at \$1,300. As time allows, however, some additional expenditures may occur, i.e. work by the graphics designer on a second highway sign.**
- 3. Staff Reports**
 - Doreen DeSarro distributed and reviewed the May report *(copy attached)*.
 - Don Roe said a press release will be drafted after the next taping at Government TV with the Planning & Zoning Liaison Committee.
 - Don Roe updated the EDC on North Main Street Extension and North Plains Industrial Road infrastructure updates; reminded the EDC about some upcoming meetings that may be of interest to the

44 Commissioners; and told the EDC that he will be forwarding to them any e-mails from the Greater New
45 Haven Chamber of Commerce that might be of interest to them, since our membership enables the EDC
46 to participate in their events.

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48 **4. Committee Reports**

49 • **Marketing** – Mark Gingras gave a brief report on what the Marketing Committee worked on
50 during May. The highway billboard is up (members are very happy) and the graphic designer has been
51 asked to work on the design for the northbound sign. Jim Wolfe reiterated that if the two signs have the
52 same design it will have a greater impact. Mark said the signs will be similar in style but the wording will
53 be slightly different. Other items worked on were: design of the business cards and the start of the next
54 3-year marketing plan.

55 • **P&Z Liaison** – Jim Wolfe said that in 2003 the PZL Committee first became involved in meetings
56 regarding the River Road ramp. He showed the EDC a new DOT concept of the proposed ramp.
57 Members discussed this project and offered some opinions/suggestions.

58 Also, the Committee has started discussions with the Planning & Zoning Commission about possible
59 changes to the zoning map for the portion of Route 68 from the Yalesville Vet to Hope Hill Road (it is
60 currently zoned straight residential).

61 Jim also mentioned that it has been requested that a PZL member attend an upcoming IWWC
62 meeting. It was agreed that the Committee should attend the meeting.

63 Joe Mirra was asked by WCI whether the EDC would co-sign a letter to the Town Council
64 concerning improvements to the Town-owned parking lots in the downtown. **Rosemarie Preneta made
65 a motion to co-sign a letter with WCI to the Town Council regarding improving the Town-owned
66 parking lots in the downtown; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the
67 motion passed.**

68 • **Retention/Incentives** – Rosemarie Preneta said the Committee will meet in June.

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70 **5. Discussion re: Summer Meeting Schedule** – Don Roe said we don't anticipate holding any meetings
71 over the summer but committee meetings will occur as needed.

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73 **6. Discussion re: Membership Size of the EDC** – The Executive Committee discussed the idea of
74 increasing membership for three reasons: age of the EDC, need for diversity on the EDC and the
75 workload. The Exec. Committee recommends that we wait a year before pursuing this idea. Jim Wolfe
76 suggested inviting more people to attend the monthly meetings and/or participate in committee
77 meetings.

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81 **7. Regional Matters**

- 82 • **Central CT Alliance for Economic Development** – Staff met in May with this organization.
- 83 Members of CCAED discussed participating in the International Council of Shopping Centers trade
- 84 show next fiscal year.
- 85 • **Greater NH Chamber of Commerce** – No further report.
- 86 • **Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce** – Jim Wolfe and Gary Fappiano have been asked by Robin
- 87 Wilson to serve on a subcommittee being formulated to discuss an electric rate discount program for
- 88 the entire Town. No meeting dates have been set. The EDC discussed the idea of such a program
- 89 and agreed there were many issues that need to be resolved. Joe Mirra said it should be made
- 90 clear that any proposed program will have to come before the EDC for a decision on our stance.
- 91 • **REX** – No report.
- 92 • **Workforce Alliance** – Joe Mirra said the organization is doing great.

93
94 **7. Community Involvement** – The EDC watched two DVD clips: GovTV Preview Program about the
95 Marketing Committee and the NBC30 news clip interviewing Doreen DeSarro and others about
96 development on Route 5.

97 WCI is holding four (4) community events on consecutive Fridays this summer; Joe Mirra
98 encouraged members to attend.

99 Mark Gingras reminded the EDC that SCOW’s 40th anniversary event, Noche de Musica, will be held
100 June 23 at 8 p.m. at Paul Mellon Arts Center.

101 The EDC had a discussion with Mr. Richard Lopresto, North Haven EDC Chairman, about how
102 economic development is handled by Wallingford and North Haven. Joe Mirra thanked Mr. Lopresto for
103 joining the meeting this evening.

104
105 **There being no further business, Dick Nunn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.; Jim**
106 **Wolfe seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**

107
108 Sincerely,

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112 Lynn M. Wolff, Secretary

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114 Attachment