

**Economic Development Commission
Minutes
September 14, 2009**

Members Present: Richard Nunn, Chairman
Tom Collette
Gary Fappiano
Mark Gingras
Rosemarie Preneta
Jim Wolfe

Members Absent: Joseph Mirra, Vice-Chairman

Others Present: Don Roe
Doreen DeSarro, Business Recruiter
John LeTourneau, Town Councilor

Chairman Dick Nunn called the regular meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes dated June 1, 2009** – Due to a printing error, the minutes as mailed with the agenda were incomplete; complete copies were distributed at the September meeting. **Jim Wolfe made a motion to approve the June 1, 2009 minutes as distributed; Mark Gingras seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.**
2. **Review of Expenditure Report** -- No questions on the report.
3. **Marketing/Staff Report – June and July/August**– Doreen DeSarro distributed and reviewed the reports for June and July/August. She also went over the Update on Downtown for each time period. She also reviewed the Results of EDC Marketing Activities 2009-09 and the EDC Marketing Program 2009-10.

Jim Wolfe asked what had happened with the company looking for space with railroad siding; Doreen said she did talk to the broker and, as far as she knows, the company is still interested in a Wallingford site.

Jim asked what happened with the Boardman building and the company's difficulty with getting State money. Was that resolved? Doreen said it was resolved.

John LeTourneau has heard about a new business coming to Wallingford. A toy store will be moving into vacant space in Simpson Court (former Masonic Building), with a projected opening of November.
4. **Update on Downtown** – This item was discussed during Item 3, Marketing/Staff report.
5. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - **P&Z Liaison** – Jim Wolfe reported that he and Joe Mirra have been involved with discussions on the temporary sign regulations. Due to the economy, the PZC is considering relaxing the sign regulations. The P&Z Liaison subcommittee supports this idea. Jim plans to attend tonight's PZC meeting.

Jim mentioned that another building was approved in the IX zone; he anticipates that it will be another metal building but hasn't seen it yet.

- **Retention/Incentives** – Gary Fappiano said the subcommittee discussed the idea of a “business exchange” but felt it would be difficult to try during the summer. Another idea being considered concerns street vendors – perhaps vendor (like those who have had a successful season at the Farmer’s Market, and those who sell tacos, hot dogs, etc. at various locations around town) could go under a roof in a vacant building for the winter? These ideas will be discussed at the subcommittee meeting next week.

Don Roe mentioned that staff is working on scheduling the next round of company visits—tentative dates are in late October (20th, 21st and 28th).

- **Marketing** – Tom Collette said the subcommittee met earlier. The Marketing Program for 2009-10 was discussed. The subcommittee discussed a few marketing initiatives. At this time, the subcommittee feels that it would be a better idea to continue with the advertising campaign in the Record Journal rather than try advertising on the big-screen in our local movie theater. The subcommittee would also like to schedule the marketing “charette” for the November EDC meeting instead of October.

6. Regional Matters

- **Regional Growth Partnership** – Nothing to report.
- **Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce** – Don Roe and Doreen DeSarro will meet with Robin on Tuesday.
- **Workforce Alliance** – No report.
- **CCAED** – The plans for a quarterly e-newsletter are going forward.

There being no further business, Tom Collette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.; Jim Wolfe seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Wolff