

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL  
131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT  
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101, LOWER LEVEL, TOWN HALL  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014

#### I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Karen Faust  
Commissioner Michael Fox  
Commissioner Charlene Garcia (excused)  
Commissioner David Marsden  
Commissioner Greg Polk  
Commissioner Pamela Raynock (excused)  
Commissioner Fernando Rosa  
Commissioner Clifford Stamm  
Commissioner Linda Woods (excused)

Present: Economic Development Director  
Andrew Brecher

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Fox made a motion to approve the March 5, 2014 minutes and Commissioner Marsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

Chairman Rosa shared the article "Low Impact Development Rules Adopted" as printed in the Hartford Courant recently. He also referred to an article published in the Commercial Record which revealed that five U.S. major banks have failed recently and that the Department of Commerce has created "Select U.S.A." a department of foreign investors.

#### IV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brecher distributed "Top Ten Economic Development Initiatives 2014-15" and the Lucy Robbins Welles Library "Newington Information Packet". Director Brecher also announced that there has been an application submitted for an extension to the street scape project to Constance Leigh Drive to be completed by State funds including the same pavers and lighting, etc., which will first have to be approved by the Town Council. Also, the Town Council has accepted the offer by the Capital Region Development authority to complete the project. Best Market is looking for local businesses to occupy their plaza. Advance Torque Products now occupies 56 Budney Road. Also, Moe's Southwest restaurant will have its grand opening in a few weeks. Sunbest Rentals is moving to Hartford and there are two or three parties interested in building a hotel possibly on the Berlin Turnpike and one by CCSU. Bone Fish and Price Chopper now have a parking valet service. Also, the DOT have approached Director Brecher to establish a comprehensive shuttle junction related to Fast/Track. Director Brecher also pointed out that bank institutions are flourishing in Newington because of high customer investments in C.D.'s.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. DOWNTOWN SIGNAGE - CONSTITUTION SQUARE/MARKET SQUARE

The project has yet to be completed because the earth is still frozen.

B. GATEWAY/DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

This project is still pending and Director Brecher noted that he has read in the Hartford Courant that Berlin will erect 13 new signs featuring that Berlin, Connecticut was "Incorporated 1785".

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. HOLIDAY EVENT

Director Brecher has reached out to the Chamber of Commerce and Town Manager regarding having a "Holiday Event" instead of the annual Spring breakfast with positive feedback. Chairman Rosa reported that this would take place the first week in December with the options of holding it at the Portuguese Club or the Saengerbund Club, Chairman Rosa would provide a detailed agenda for the 3 hour holiday event and spoke passionately for its success.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Stamm voiced his concern regarding unresolved issues still pending at the public parking lot in Market Square.

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

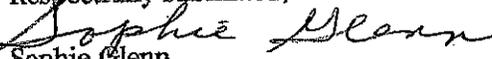
Commissioner Faust voiced her agreement with holding a winter event at the Portuguese Club in Newington.

Commissioner Polk reported that the Downtown Business Association is thriving with 65 members.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Polk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sophie Glenn  
Recording Secretary