

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL
131 EAST CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101 LOWER LEVEL, TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2014
7:02 pm.

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Karen Faust
Commissioner Michael Fox
Commissioner Charlene Garcia
Commissioner David Marsden
Commissioner Greg Polk
Commissioner Pamela Raynock
Commissioner Fernando Rosa
Commissioner Clifford Stamm
Commissioner Ken St. Onge
Commissioner Linda Woods (absent)

PRESENT: Economic Development Director
Andrew Brecher

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- AUGUST 6, 2014

Commissioner Fox made a motion to accept the August 6, 2014 minutes and Commissioner Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Brecher distributed a list of Newington Town Officials dated August 6, 2014 and reviewed the functions of each department, particularly as they relate to Economic Development.

Richard's Machine Tool has moved to 187 Stamm Road from Berlin and will be hosting an open house on Friday September 5, 2014 with a ribbon cutting organized by the Chamber of Commerce at 1:30 pm.

The Town did not submit an application to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for an electric vehicle charging station at Constitution Square because there were insufficient votes to waive the Town Council's rules to permit approving submission of the application. DEEP would like to invite another round of applications if additional funds are made available.

Best Market temporary paving repairs to the parking lot have been completed.

The Highway Department reports they have inspected the pavement cracks in the Municipal Parking Lot and have determined them to be a normal part of the aging of that facility. Crack filling will be scheduled when the cracks worsen. Concrete curbs were repaired in the Spring. Additional repairs to concrete curbs will be made in Spring, 2015. Granite curbs will be repaired when the extent of damage makes it cost justified to hire a contractor. Grass on the islands never grew as anticipated. The Downtown Merchants might want to consider suggesting an alternative such as mulch, pavers, shrubs, ground cover, etc.

The situation at Sunshine Laundry has abated in line with the end of their summer peak season. It is expected they will add additional screening to their property prior to next summer.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Gateway/Directional Signage

This was postponed to the next meeting.

B. Holiday Event

There was considerable discussion about the tasks and resources necessary to move forward with the event scheduled for Thursday, 12/04/14 from 5:30-8:00 pm at the Portuguese Club.

It was suggested that email be used for invitations, but an email address would be required for responses. Director Brecher will contact the Town's IT department to discuss establishing an EDC email address.

Press releases should be used to publicize the event and to invite enterprises to advise how long they have been in business. In addition, Commissioners could personally invite businesses within their districts.

Director Brecher agreed to discuss with the Town Planner the possibility of using Planning Department staff to provide administrative support.

Commissioners Polk and Stamm agreed to talk to the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce about using their membership list for invitations.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Assignment of Districts

District 1 - Commissioner Dave Marsden
District 2 - Commissioner Charlene Garcia
District 3 - Commissioner Pam Raynock
District 4 - Commissioner Greg Polk
District 5 - Commissioner Chip Stamm
District 6a - Commissioner Linda Woods
District 6b - Commissioner Mike Fox
District 7 - Commissioner Karen Faust
District 8 - Commissioner Ken St. Onge

Chairman Rosa added that the districts map will be revised and distributed at the next meeting.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons noted that the Lucy Robbins Welles Library provides a booklet that lists businesses which could prove to be very helpful to this commission. Miss Lyons also suggested that the proposed Holiday Event should get support from town resources. She added that the sidewalks in Constitution Square still need observation because of difficult snow plowing in winter and suggested that perhaps the existing turf from Clem Lemire could be reused at the Municipal Park Lot islands when that turf is replaced. Also, there is a general lack of communication among the Town's boards and commissions which could be improved upon as she attends several of the meetings on a regular basis.

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

A. District Reports

None.

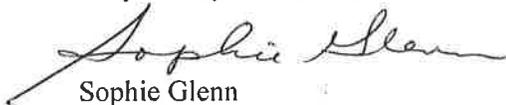
B. Chamber Report

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Raynock made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sophie Glenn

Recording Secretary