

**East Hartford Economic Development Commission
Town Hall Conference Room
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2008**

1) CALL TO ORDER

- a) A regular meeting of the East Hartford Economic Development Commission was called to order at 6:40 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2, 2008.

2) ROLL CALL

- a) Present: Chairperson Marilyn Pet; Vice-Chair Debra Arrieta; Devorah Johnson; Barbara-Ann Rossi; John Ryan; Bob Marsh, liaison from EH Chamber of Commerce
- b) Absent: Miguel Franco, Pat Harmon, Chuck Hutchinson, Susan Skowronek,
- c) Others in Attendance: Jeanne Webb, Dir. of Development; Aya Jensen, Economic Development Specialist

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Minutes from March 5, 2008

**MOTION MADE BY MR. RYAN, SECONDED BY MS. ARRIETA TO APPROVE
THE MINUTES
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

8) NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Raised Bill No. 701, General Assembly, February Session, 2008.**
 - i) Mary Beth Reid, director of the EH Chamber of Commerce, spoke in opposition about the proposed bill: AN ACT CONCERNING A HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. (*SEE ATTACHMENT*)

4) BILLS LIST

- a) \$100.00 – Clerk

**MOTION MADE BY MS. ARRIETA, SECONDED BY MR. RYAN TO APPROVE
BILLS
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

5) LIAISON REPORT FROM PLANNING & ZONNING

- a) Mr. Ryan reported on the expansion of the commercial node at the south east intersection of Silver Lane and Mercer Avenue
- b) P&Z held a workshop regarding the Adult Entertainment Industries and modifying two areas to provide for such a business. The two sites being discussed are the North Meadows and Prestige Park.

6) LIAISON REPORT FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- a) Mr. Marsh informed the Commission that he will be vacating his position in the coming months. In preparation for this, he prepared a “guide” for the position of Liaison from the EHCC on the EDC

7) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Signage Task Force
 - i) A meeting is to be held on April 3, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.
- b) Advertising and Promotions Sub-Committee – RFP for Services

- i) The bidding companies will be putting together presentations of their marketing campaigns.
- ii) Sharon Mason of MKdesign is being contacted to possibly put together a map/pamphlet which would be distributed at sites such as Cabela's to inform the consumer of the area's tourist attractions. This would be done through a grant worth a minimum of \$15,000.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. ROSSI, SECONDED BY MR. RYAN TO APPLY FOR
THE GRANT USING A THIRD PARTY (NON-PROFIT)
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY**

- c) Fairway Crossing
 - i) Plans are moving forward and seem to be on track.
- d) CelluTissue
 - i) Chris Fielder is optimistic about the EH plant receiving the funding for their project.
- e) Expansion of Commercial Node on Silver Lane
 - i) (see Item 5a.)

8) NEW BUSINESS

- a) EDC Quarterly Report
 - i) Ms. Jensen has produced the first quarterly report (*SEE ATTACHMENT*)
- b) Business Visitation
 - i) Ms. Jensen is looking into possible sites for upcoming visits
- c) Ms. Webb has agreed to a Business After Hours for the EHCC to be sponsored by The Cookhouse Restaurant and to be held the night of the Slam Alan concert.

9) ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION MADE BY MS. ROSSI, SECONDED BY MR. RYAN TO ADJOURN
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY
Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey A. Currey
Clerk

Cc: Town Clerk
Melody A. Currey, Mayor
Development Department