

**EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
June 3, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Economic Development Commission was called to order at **6:04 p.m.** on **Wednesday, June 3, 2009** by Commissioner Marilyn Pet, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Present:

Marilyn Pet, Chair
Debra Arrieta
Devorah Johnson
Pat Harmon
Barbara-Ann Rossi
Susan Skowronek

Absent:

Miguel Franco
John Ryan
Travis Simpson

Others in Attendance:

Redevelopment Agency (Robin Pearson – Chair, Dan Dube, Gerald Maine, Ellen McCreery)
Aya Beckles, Economic Development Specialist
Jeanne Webb, Director of Development
Melody Currey, Mayor

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) May 6, 2009

i) The MOTION for Item 4b should read "...by Ms. Arrieta, seconded by Mr. Simpson..."

MOTION by Ms. Arrieta, seconded by Ms. Rossi to approve minutes as amended

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

4) BILLS LIST

a) **\$100.00 – Clerk**

MOTION by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Rossi

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

5) OLD BUSINESS

a) Business Visitations

i) Ms. Webb is speaking with business owners in the North Meadows to possibly hosting an informational meeting for all to attend as opposed to hosting individual business visits.

ii) Ms. Webb toured Vinny's with new owner, Steven Weinstein

b) Community Economic Development Fund – Main Street Improvement Program
Donna Wertenbach, CEO

- i) Ms. Wertenbach informed the Commission that East Hartford has been named as a target city, 1 of 3 that CEDF will be focusing on for their Community Development Project. This program will bring together neighborhoods, empowering them to make decisions on the direction of their community. This will be funded by investors, both individuals and large companies, who will see a guaranteed return + 2% on their investment with the possibility of 5%. The town will be assigned a CEDF Consultant who will assist with the projects throughout the life of these investments, which are currently being estimated at 3-5 years.
- ii) Members of the Redevelopment Agency agreed to work cooperatively with the EDC to begin CEDF's involvement in the town.
- c) International Arts Bazaar - Collaboration between Chamber and EDC
 - i) Ms. Webb will be touching base with Fall Fest organizers
- d) Public Access Show – Predatory practices foreclosed properties
 - i) Ms. Webb will be taping another show focusing on housing sales and their trends
- e) Restaurant Guide
 - i) Ms. Pet reported that the verification cards were sent out and Ms. Beckles has received a few phone calls with corrections

6) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discussion between Economic Development and the Redevelopment Agency regarding the future development needs of East Hartford
 - i) Mayor Currey gave an update on the progress of Daley Court in regards to the action the Town Council took on 6.2.09
 - ii) Ms. Pearson, Chair of the RDA, requested a fact sheet be sent out to members of both commissions

MOTION by Ms. Pet, seconded by Ms. Arrieta, that the Economic Development Commission supports the Redevelopment Agency's decision for the Council to transfer the title of 590 Burnside Avenue from the Town of East Hartford to the Redevelopment Agency for the purposes of approving the sale of said property to the designated developer for the sum of \$50,000.00.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

2 abstentions (Ms. Harmon, Ms. Rossi)

- iii) Ms. Webb updated the Commission on the RDA's plots yet to be developed
- iv) Ms. Pet updated the RDA on their goals for the future of East Hartford including, but not limited to, continuing business visitations, signage, and maps of the town with local attractions

7) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Rossi, seconded by Ms. Arrieta

APPROVED at 8:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey A. Currey
Clerk

cc: Town Clerk
Mayor
Development Department