

**EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 5, 2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the East Hartford Economic Development Commission was called to order at **6:03 p.m.** on **Wednesday, March 5, 2014** by EDC Commissioner Susan Skowronek, Chair.

2. ROLL CALL

EAST HARTFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Present:

Debra Arrieta, Vice-Chair
Frank Collins
Pat Harmon
Jack Jacobs
Devorah Johnson (arrived during Item 5)
Susan Skowronek, Chair
Paul Sousa

Absent:

Barbara-Ann Rossi
John Ryan

Others in Attendance:

Ellyn Laramie, Economic Development Coordinator, Town of East Hartford

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

4) APPROVAL OF EDC MINUTES

- a) January 2014

MOTION by Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Arrieta to approve minutes
APPROVED (1 Abstention – Mr. Jacobs)

5) BILLS LIST

- a) \$100.00 - Clerk

MOTION by Ms. Arrieta, seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6) OLD BUSINESS

- a) New Business Update
 - i) UTC announcement was discussed with regards to the agreement to keep Pratt & Whitney headquarters in East Hartford for another 15 years.
 - ii) Bakery on Main was provided a 3 million dollar state subsidy, and is projected to hire 70 additional employees over the next 4 years. The owner has also invested over \$600,000 of his own money for this expansion project on Park Avenue.
 - iii) Cardio Express was discussed regarding their move to School Street Square.
- b) EDC Lunch Club Update
 - i) Last month's lunch was well attended with a number of representatives from businesses around town.
 - ii) The next luncheon will be held on March 28, 2014 at Pho99 on Silver Lane
- c) CEDF Funds
 - i) Ms. Laramie discussed the possibility of acquiring funds to update the area around the East Hartford signage on Main Street across from the intersection of Main and Connecticut Boulevard. She also noted that this may be the first of a few projects to highlight various points of entrance including, but not limited to, Main and Burnside and Main and Park Street.
 - ii) Ms. Arietta asked about the outreach to local banks in order to leverage the funding CEDF was going to provide. Ms. Laramie noted that this would be discussed under New Business.
- d) Ribbon Cutting, Thursday, February 6 at 1pm at Sacred Rivers Yoga
 - i) Ms. Laramie reported that this was a successful event and well attended. She noted that the owner was extremely grateful for the time taken to honor the opening.

7) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Ms. Laramie referenced the minutes from the last meeting with regards to the outreach efforts that were discussed in order to leverage the funding that CEDF was proposing to provide. She discussed the options that the Development Department and the Grants Department have come up with in order to use this for a façade upgrade which would include matching dollars from a business/building owner. She also mentioned that there may be additional funds remaining from a Redevelopment project along Burnside Avenue. She will report out to Commissioners as she has additional details.
- b) Correspondence was received and it is duly noted in these minutes that confirmation was received for Ms. Skowronek's reappointment to EDC, letter date stamped 2.27.14, by Robert Pasek, Town Clerk.
- c) Correspondence was received and it is duly noted in these minutes that confirmation was received for Mr. Collins' reappointment to EDC, letter date stamped 3.5.14 by Robert Pasek, Town Clerk.
- d) Ms. Laramie discussed CPACE (CT Property Assessed Clean Energy) and that the Town is actively identifying and reaching out to businesses to see if they are interested.
- e) Plan of Conservation and Development Meeting public hearing is tentatively scheduled for May 21, 2014.

8) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Arrieta

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AT 6:56PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey A. Currey
Clerk

cc: Town Clerk
Development Department