

Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose Street
Newtown, CT
www.newtown.org



MINUTES

March 15, 2016

Meeting Room 3 - 7:00pm

Present: Bob Rau, Wes Thompson, Paul Fadus, Al Roznicki, Mike Boyle, Matt Mihalcik, Amy Dent, Bill May, Dana Trado, and Georgia Contois, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Rau welcomed the new members and asked them to briefly introduce themselves. He informed the Commission that due to improper notice, nothing at the meeting could be officially voted on.

Public Participation/Reports:

Kathy Quinn of the Sustainable Energy Commission was accompanied by Jeff Leichtman to re-present a green energy business plan that is being implemented in Bridgeport. Mr. Leichtman asked the EDC to consider their mantra- "win the race to zero waste".

Mr. Rau asked if any members were in opposition to moving the meeting time to 7:30pm. There were no objections. He also explained to the Commission that their job is to facilitate discussions and business endeavors between residents and business owners of the town, with town organizations and government agencies. Mr. Boyle communicated the importance of 'following up' with their connections and making sure to create open discussions.

Mr. Roznicki submitted a draft plan for assisting business owners and bettering their relationship with the EDC, which will be further reviewed and discussed. Mr. Thompson also submitted a revised version of the *Strategic Plan for Economic Development*, after members spent much time revising and condensing. He hoped that the Commission would continue to reduce the content to generate a precise Strategic Plan.

2016 Subcommittee review:

Each subcommittee gave a brief overview of the progress and observations they have made since the last meeting. Mr. Thompson spoke about his experience at the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the Farmer's Market. He will be returning with an application for public hearing in April. Mr. Mihalcik was pleased to report the growing attendance at the Brown Bag Lunch workshops at the C.H. Booth Library.

These minutes are subject to the approval of the Economic Development Commission at their next meeting

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Economic Development Coordinator's Report:

Mr. Rau updated the Commission on Betsy Paynter's behalf. She continues to receive sponsorships for the upcoming Restaurant Week. She is extremely grateful for the support local businesses have shown for the event. Mrs. Paynter is also working with ConnDOT on exit signs off of I-84 going towards Sandy Hook Center and Newtown. This project will work in conjunction with the *Museum in the Streets* signs for historical buildings. Amy Villmar of Tractor Supply will join Mrs. Paynter at the Legislative Council for their final approval for tax incentives, which have already been approved through the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. Mr. Boyle will be accompanied by Mrs. Paynter to the S.H.O.P. meeting April 5th at 6:45 to present the progress of Restaurant Week.

Adjournment: With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

*Respectfully Submitted,
Georgia Contois, Clerk*