

East Lyme Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
March 9, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Steven Santino, Chairman
John Jensen
Richard Gada
Charles Ambulos

Members Absent

Ed Shapiro

A. Preliminary Business

1. Call to Order

Chairman Steven Santino called the March 9, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 7:10 PM.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Mr. Gada moved to approve the February 9, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Economic Development Commission as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Jensen.

Motion carried 3-0-0.

3. Delegations

There were no delegations.

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

B. Reports

1. Ex-Officio Report

There was no report.

2. Chairman's Report

Mr. Santino had follow up information on the Agreement between the Economic Development Commission and the Discover East Lyme, LLC. He had an unsigned copy of the contract, reading that "the original deadline was May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2009, unless and until cancelled by mutual agreement or 30 days notice." He passed the document to the members for review. Mr. Jensen pointed out that the dates written in the contract indicate that the contract is not valid. Mr. Ambulos pointed out that the wording was ambiguous and could indicate that the contract was in fact still valid. There was further discussion. It was decided that an amendment should be drafted for review at the next meeting to clarify the dates and the validity of the contract and presented to the appropriate person for signature.

Mr. Santino said he had shared the proposed 2010 goals with Mr. Formica, and is waiting for his feedback to move forward and formalize them. The goals that were proposed include capitalizing on the Streetscape, and plans for tourism draw while the Boardwalk

is under renovation. He also asked Mr. Formica for his opinion on connecting with Planning and Zoning to be able to weigh in on projects and get opinions.

Mr. Santino also met with Mr. Goeschel the Town Planner today, to discuss the next steps for the POCD. The study that was done by UCONN last year is on the POCD Website and he suggested that it should be reviewed and to make any revisions that are appropriate to the write up for the Economic Development Section. Mr. Santino said another way to really stay involved is to sit on the steering committee for POCD.

Mr. Santino asked Mr. Ambulos if he was interested in remaining involved. Mr. Jensen suggested that they rotate the responsibility of attending the meetings. Mr. Santino said that Mr. Goeschel did agree to have the meeting minutes and agendas sent to the members in a timely manner so that they had proper time to review and decide which meetings would be essential.

3. Presentation of Bills

There were none.

C. Old Business

1. Updates: Roles and Responsibilities

Mr. Ambulos reported that the Zoning meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather so there was nothing to report.

Mr. Jensen reported that the Board of Selectman tabled the motion regarding the Agricultural Commission. Mr. Jensen suggested that they invite Mr. Mark Christensen who is on the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources to attend the next Economic Development meeting, to see if there is any way to assist in helping move along the Agricultural issues without becoming another Commission.

Mr. Gada agreed that they should have some assistance with Agriculture.

2. 2010 Planning

There was no update.

D. New Business

1. Open Discussion

Mr. Santino asked Mr. Gada for an update on the Niantic Rotary Gold Auction fundraiser. Mr. Gada reported that the event went very well, and that approximately \$28,000 (dollars) was raised. The Niantic Rotary had committed to donating \$25,000 (dollars) to the walkway. He also mentioned the clock that will be at the walkway. The Formica family has donated \$5,000 (dollars) in the Memory of Donna Formica towards the clock. The Niantic Rotary is accepting donations for the clock as well as donations for added work on the walkway.

E. Adjournment

MOTION (2)

Mr. Gada moved to Adjourn the March 9, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Commission at 7:45 PM.

Seconded by Mr. Ambulos

Motion Carried 3-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zoe Zrakas, Recording Secretary