

East Lyme Economic Development Commission  
Regular Meeting  
May 11, 2010

Members Present: Steven Santino, John Jensen, Richard Gada,  
Ed Shapiro and Charles Ambulos

Also Present: Tom Kalal and Mark Christiansen

A. Preliminary Business

1. Call to Order. Chairman Steven Santino called the May 11, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes. Mr. Santino asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the April 13, 2010, Regular Meeting Minutes of the Economic Development Commission.

MOTION: Mr. Shapiro moved to approve the April 13, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Economic Development Commission, as presented.  
Seconded by Mr. Jensen. (4-0) Unanimous

3. Delegations. There were no delegations at this time.

4. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

2. Chairman's Report. Mr. Santino reported he gave Mr. Formica a report on this Commission's plan for the year. He discussed amending the Discover East Lyme contract with him. He also discussed vacancies on this Commission. Mr. Santino is awaiting his comments.

The Town Planner would like to discuss using GIS and economic gardening with this Commission. He agreed to attend a future meeting of this Commission.

3. Presentation of Bills. The Recording Secretary presented a bill for 3.25 hours of secretarial work for the Economic Development Commission from February 9, 2010 through May 5, 2010.

MOTION: Mr. Shapiro moved to pay the bill for the Recording Secretary for 3.25 hours of secretarial work for the Economic Development Commission from February 9, 2010 through May 5, 2010.  
Seconded by Mr. Jensen. (4-0) Unanimous.

The Substitute Recording Secretary presented a bill for 4.25 hours of secretarial work for the Economic Development Commission from March 9, 2010 to April 14, 2010.

MOTION: Mr. Shapiro moved to pay the bill for the Substitute Recording Secretary for 4.25 hours of secretarial work for the Economic Development Commission from March 9, 2010 to April 14, 2010. Seconded by Mr. Jensen. (4-0) Unanimous

### C. Old Business

1. Updates: Roles and Responsibilities. Mr. Shapiro emailed Commission members information regarding an Agricultural Commission.

Mr. Ambulos asked Mr. Mulholland to attend an Economic Development Commission Meeting. Mr. Santino agreed to contact Mr. Mulholland.

Mr. Jensen met with the Agricultural Business Subcommittee. He felt they had good ideas. If they were able to generate income from their property, they might be less inclined to sell their property.

Mr. Jensen gave Commission members information on Open Space for Green Valley Farms in Lebanon, Connecticut which showed the cost of services used to be \$1.12 dollars for residential, \$.16 for commercial/industrial and .17 for open space farm/vacant land.

Commission members agreed to support agriculture. Mr. Santino agreed to inform Mr. Formica of this Commission's decision.

Questions raised were: 1) How often should a member of the Economic Development Commission attend subcommittee meetings; 2) How does FOI relate to a subcommittee; 3) How long will the subcommittee exist; and 4) Where will they meet. Mr. Santino agreed to discuss these questions with Mr. Formica.

Mr. Jensen revisited CERC, and felt they have useful demographic information.

Commission member Richard Gada arrived.

2. Farming: Tom Kalal and Mark Christiansen. Mr. Christiansen reported he and Mr. Kalal are members of the Conservation of Natural Resources Commission. The Board of Selectmen suggested that in place of an Agricultural Commission, they become a subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen or Conservation of Natural Resources commission. He stated they are pleased that this Commission is interested in having them serve as a subcommittee to it. Mr. Santino agreed to discuss this with Mr. Formica. Mr. Christiansen suggested following up with a letter to the Conservation of Natural Resources Commission.

Mr. Christiansen stated members of the subcommittee had the following ideas: 1) to have a trail ride; 2) a farm tour during Celebrate East Lyme; 3) hay rides in the north end of town.

A Farmers' Workshop was held and 75 individuals attended. Mr. Christiansen suggested a seminar on how to promote farms.

Mr. Kalal stated a farm has open space.

Mr. Christiansen would like to have a float in the Memorial Day Parade to promote farms.

Further discussion on farming will be held at the June 8 Meeting.

Mr. Kalal would like to have mapping of farms and a website. He felt farming helps to keep a balance within our community. Mr. Santino agreed to follow up with Mr. Formica on how a subcommittee is defined and obtain necessary letters.

D. New Business

1. Open Space: Arthur Carlson and Marvin Schutt. This matter was tabled.
2. Open Discussion. There was no additional discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Gada moved to adjourn the Economic Development Commission Regular Meeting of May 11, 2010 at 8:05 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Shapiro. (5-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary