

**Town of Vernon Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting of March 18, 2009
Minutes**

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Commissioners Present: Jeff Cohen, Alan Eisenberg, Bruce Kellogg, Bob Kleinhans, Bill McGurk, Peter Olson, Vincent Shaheen. 09 MAY 18 2009 PM 3: 27
Town Staff Present: Marina Rodriguez

1. Public Forum
Mr. Tom Joyce, Interim Director of the Rockville Downtown Association (RDA), attended the meeting to inform the EDC about recent changes in RDA staffing and future plans.
2. Amendments to Agenda – None.
3. Approval of Minutes
On a motion by Commissioner Olson, seconded by Commissioner Eisenberg, the minutes of February 18, 2009 were approved with one abstention. A correction was made under approval of minutes changing year to 2009.
4. Administrative Items
Communications and Correspondence: Staff submitted correspondence for circulation.
5. EDC Priorities: Commissioners focused on priority recommendations. Each selected a priority to help begin implementation of action steps, as follows:
Priority 1: to retain & support existing businesses – Comm. Cohen, McGurk, & Eisenberg
Priority 1A: to support RDA's Downtown Revitalization Plan – Comm. Kleinhans
Priority 2: to create single point of contact for permitting process – Comm. Olson
Priority 2A: to study & implement zone changes – Comm. Kerensky was suggested.
Priority 3: to explore local incentives – Comm. Kleinhans
Priority 4: to maintain & expand employment in health, retail & services – Comm. Kellogg & McGurk
Priority 5: to continue to accommodate a mix of affordable housing types – Comm. Shaheen
Priority 6: to explore an energy district – Comm. Eisenberg & Kellogg. Comm. Kennedy was suggested.
6. Economic Development Status Update
Staff distributed the update report dated March 18, 2009 and answered questions.
7. Update of Other Initiatives
 - A. E D Web page: recent updates are reflected on site
 - B. Vernon Development Fair: staff reported on arrangements so far; reminder that the date is Wednesday, May 13th; invitations to be mailed in mid-April; caterer, transportation, tour guide have been secured.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marina C. Rodriguez, AICP, CED Coordinator & ATP

McR