

Town Clerk

Regular Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Town of Vernon Economic Development Commission
Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 7:30 A.M.
Vernon Town Hall, 3rd Floor, 14 Park Place
Rockville/Vernon, CT

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jeffrey Cohen at 7:35 AM. Those present were Peter Olson, Meghan Scranton, Bruce Kellogg, Dan Kennedy, Jim Sendrak and Shaun Gately. Those absent were Vincent Shaheen, Bill Breslau and Bill McGurk.
2. Public Forum – No one present at public forum.
3. Approval of Minutes from meeting on April 10, 2013, 2013 – *A motion to approve the April 10, 2013 minutes was made by Meghan Scranton and seconded by Peter Olson. Motion passed with unanimously with one abstention.*
4. Administrative Items
 - A. Communications and Correspondence
 - No report
5. Economic Development Status Update
 - A. Current Projects
 - 200 West Main Street – The funding has been approved and they are moving forward with the project.
 - Loom City Lofts and Talcott Brothers Mill –The funding for Loom City has been lined up but they are waiting to release the funds and Talcott Brothers Mill project is still discussing financing.
 - Kelly Road Hotel
 - The site work has begun and they will be meeting with Planning and Zoning next month.
 - OPM
 - State POCD – Nothing to report at this time.
 - Branding
 - “On the Move” branding for the Town of Vernon has been rolled out and departments are coming up with ideas on how to use it. This will be discussed in greater detail under the Three Year Plan.
6. New Business
 - A. Community Outreach/ Events
 - Economic Development Showcase
 - The showcase will be held on October 9, 2013 after the regularly scheduled EDC meeting.
 - Job Fair
 - Jim Sendrak distributed an outline for the upcoming Job Fair in the fall and information about the “warm up” event in June. The event will be hosted by Vernon Regional Adult Based Education and will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013 from 9:00 AM to Noon at the VRABE building. PR will start on May 10th to advertise the event. Several suggestions were made on how to get the word out about the Job Fair. More information to follow.
 - University Outreach
 - Mr. Gately continues his dialogues with the professors from the local colleges.

B. Three Year Plan Discussion

- Timeline
- Goals
- Next Step

Mr. Gately started to review the POCD plan with suggestions for a three year plan. After a brief discussion, it was decided that Mr. Gately should put together a list of "doable" priorities or goals that realistically could be completed for the Three Plan or possible long range goals. Mr. Gately will prepare the list of priorities and goals and send them to all commission members. The commission is to review the suggestions and be prepared to discuss them at next month's meeting.

7. Old Business

A. POCD Implementation objectives –

- RDA/ Investing in Rockville/ Facades and design of Rockville
- Branding Enhancing Gateway
- Talcottville Mill
- Development of Exit 66 and 67
- Retention and Business Development Parking Needs

After a discussion, it was decided that the POCD implementation objectives should be dropped from old business and be replaced by the Three Year plan and its goals and priorities for the future.

8. Adjournment – *A motion was made by Dan Kennedy and seconded by Jim Sendrak to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 AM.*

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy A. Jackle
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Recording Secretary

