

Town Clerk

Regular Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
Town of Vernon Economic Development Commission
Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 7:30 A.M.
Vernon Town Hall, 3rd Floor, 14 Park Place
Rockville/Vernon, CT

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1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jeffrey Cohen at 7:33 AM. Those present were Peter Olson, Jim Sendrak, Bill Breslau, Bruce Kellogg, Jill Merriam, Bill McGurk and Shaun Gately. Bruce Kellogg arrived at 7:34 AM and Meghan Scranton and Vincent Shaheen arrived at 7:35 AM. Absent was Dan Kennedy.
2. Public Forum – No one present to address the Commission
3. Approval of Minutes from meeting on May 8, 2013 – *A motion to approve the May 8, 2013 minutes was made by Peter Olson and seconded by Bill Breslau. Motion passed unanimously.*
4. Administrative Items
 - A. Communications and Correspondence
 - Mr. Gately invited the commission to attend the Tuesday, June 18th Town Council meeting because there is going to be a presentation for a potential project in the Rockville area.
5. Economic Development Status Update
 - A. Current Projects
 - 200 West Main Street
The owner is actively working on the property and waiting for funding.
 - Loom City Lofts and Talcott Brothers Mill
Both projects have been approved for funding for the property and are awaiting the funds.
 - Kelly Road Hotel
They will be making their application to Planning and Zoning and have been approved by Design Review.
 - Dollar General Store
The project has been approved by Planning and Zoning with the stipulation of a left hand turn lane onto Rt. 83.
 - Branding – On the Move
Mr. Gately distributed a sample of the logo which will be on all letterhead.
 - OPM
Mr. Gately reported that OPM released complete plans on Conservation and now the Town can address the sewer issue at Exits 66 and 67.
6. New Business
 - A. Three Year Plan
 - Form subcommittee to draft Three Year plan
Mr. Gately, Ms. Merriam and Ms. Scranton will be a part of the subcommittee to review and make recommendations for a three plan for the commission. The subcommittee will report back to EDC next month with their recommendations.

B. Zoning Changes – Village District

- Mr. Gately reported that the Town is looking to establish guidelines for the village district that will provide overlays for Planning and Zoning. This would provide a quicker and more user friendly technique for building uses in Vernon/Rockville and the overlays would be defined by historical mapping.

7. Old Business

A. POCD Implementation Objectives

These items are being tabled awaiting the results of the subcommittee recommendations for the three year plan at next month's meeting.

B. Community Outreach/Events

- Economic Development Showcase – Broker/Developer/Business
The showcase will be held on October 9, 2013 after the regularly scheduled meeting of the EDC.
- Job Fair
Mr. Sendrak updated the commission on the precursor of the job fair held on Saturday, June 8. Approximately 14 people attended for workshops on job searches, Dress for Success, resume writing and the interview process. This was sponsored by Vernon Adult Education with assistance from Drew Crandall from "Keeping in Touch" and CT Works. There was a discussion about holding the fall job fair and the consensus was that EDC should concentrate on providing such things as transportation to the job fair held by MCC in the Spring in lieu of competing with them. It was also suggested that perhaps the EDC could have a booth with a couple of businesses who are looking for employees or interns.
- University Outreach
Mr. Gately stated that he continues to reach out to the universities on the area.

8. Adjournment – *The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 AM.*

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy A. Jackle
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Recording Secretary

