**Regular Meeting**
**Town of Vernon - Economic Development Commission**
**Tuesday, September 10th, 2019 at 7:30 A.M.**
**Vernon Town Hall, 3rd Floor, 14 Park Place - Vernon, CT**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order** – Commissioner Jeffrey Cohen called Meeting to order at 7:44 am. Commission members in attendance: Jeffrey Cohen, William Breslau, Jim Sendrak, Jeff Adamson, and Peter Olson. Also present was Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Interim Planner, and Leslie Campolongo, Project Coordinator.

2. **Public Forum** – No one was present for the public Forum

3. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion to approve minutes from January 9, 2019 meeting made by Commissioner Adamson and seconded by Commissioner Breslau. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Economic Development Status** - Mr. Gately provided an update on several projects underway. Discussion took place regarding the State Traffic Authority, ongoing activity at Amerbelle and Daniels Mills, and Boards and Commission statuses of ongoing projects. Mr. Gately also provided an update on the Town Planner position, the UConn Feasibility study for the reuse of the former Senior Center and a project update on Citizen's Block.

5. **New Business**

   A. **Election of Officers** – Discussion was tabled until next meeting

   B. **2022 POCD update** - Commissioner Breslau expressed that members of the Economic Development Commission should be an active part of the next POCD working group. Discussion took place.

6. **Old Business**

   A. **Three year Plan** - Commissioner Sendrak discussed Website branding and use of emails that are collected for providing news updates.

      a. Gateway enhancements – Mr. Gately reported that CT DOT must approve highway signs that provide information on food/gas/lodging and respective businesses must pay for these signs. If additions are made to existing sign, then businesses must pay again.

   Commissioner Adamson suggested that the commission prioritize from low to high, the initiatives that must be considered as part of the 3-yr. plan. Mr. Adamson suggested that fiber, sewer, and electrical connections be put in place at key gateways such as at the exit 66.

   Commissioner Sendrak suggested that the Commission take the opportunity to visit five businesses a month.

7. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Cohen, and seconded by Commissioner Adamson. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 am.

Respectfully submitted

Leslie Campolongo, Project Coordinator

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