

Caroline Simmons
Mayor

Loren Nadres
Director, Economic
Development

Leah Kagan
Special Assistant to the
Mayor for Economic
Development



CITY OF STAMFORD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION
James Huerta
Chairman

Stephen Fischer
Vice Chairman

Mark Diamond ESQ.
Secretary

Margaret Feeney
Member

TBD
Member

Stamford Government Center-Stamford, Connecticut
Regular Meeting- Thursday, March 10, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the City of Stamford Economic Development Commission (EDC) Office of Economic Development (OED) was held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 4:03pm via Zoom Meeting.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Huerta called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: James Huerta, Stephen Fischer, and Mark Diamond

Commissioner(s) Absent: Margaret Feeney

Staff: Loren Nadres-Director, Economic Development, Leah Kagan-Special Assistant to the Mayor for Economic Development and John Varamo-Economic Development Analyst,

Guest(s): Fran Pastore, Jeff Benson

3. Women's Business Development Council Presentation-Fran Pastore

Ms. Pastore provided the Commissioners with a brief history of the Women's Business Development Council. She started the organization 25 years ago when she learned Connecticut was the only state that didn't have a resource to help women entrepreneurs launch and scale small businesses. This includes technical assistance, business counseling, class trainings and entrepreneurial education which includes how to write a business plan, how to bring a product to market, etc.

4. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes

a. Approval of minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2022

Chairman Huerta asked if the Commissioners have read the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2022 and he made a motion to approve with second by Commissioner Fischer. Motion was passed unanimously with Commissioners present.

5. Chairperson's Report

a. Reporting format to be discussed during March 10, 2022 meeting

Chairman Huerta stated with the new administration he thought it would be a good idea to discuss how we would like to structure these meetings and what we feel can be accomplished. As for the Chairperson's report, he would like to see input from everyone. He would also like to see us taking a position that we are creating a roadmap on how we can help identify things that we're capable of bringing up at other meetings.

6. Director's Report

a. Reporting format to be discussed during March 10, 2022 meeting

Ms. Nadres stated that she appreciated and echo the Chairman's points and added that sharing the top two or three priorities for the administration as it relates to economic development. First, creating a globally renowned transformational innovative hub. The Mayor is committed to create jobs and become a magnet for talent. Second priority is to retain businesses and employers.

7. Old Business

a. Minority Business Engagement Update

Chairman Huerta will reach out to Dr. Jackson for further information.

b. Code of Ordinances-Article IX-Economic Development

Discussed earlier in the Chairperson's Report.

c. Discuss Roles of Commissioners

Chairman Huerta requested the Commissioners to reach out to him on what changes that they would like to see and any topics that they would like for open discussion.

8. New Business

a. Next Meeting

i. Discussion-Next Meeting Agenda

ii. Confirmation-Next Regular Meeting (Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 4pm)

Time and date was confirmed.

9. Public Comment

Mr. Benson asked, "What is the relationship if any, between the EDC and The Stamford Partnership?"

Chairman Huerta replied, that The Stamford Partnership has always been supported by the City with both staff on the board and with financial support.

10. Adjournment

Chairman requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fischer made a motion to adjourn the meeting with second from Commissioner Diamond at 4:28pm. Motion passed unanimously. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Diamond
Secretary-Economic Development Commission