

David R. Martin
Mayor

Thomas Madden, AICP
Director of Economic
Development



CITY OF STAMFORD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT


COMMISSION
Jonathan Winkel
Chairman

Stephen Fischer
Vice Chairman

James Huerta
Secretary

Mark Diamond ESQ.
Member

Margaret Feeney
Member

Stamford Government Center-Stamford, Connecticut
Regular Meeting- Thursday, March 11, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the City of Stamford Economic Development Commission (EDC) Office of Economic Development (OED) was held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 4:05pm via Zoom Meeting on the 9th floor in the Urban Redevelopment Commission Conference Room, Stamford Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, Connecticut.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Jonathan Winkel, Stephen Fischer and Margaret Feeney

Late: Mark Diamond

Absent: James Huerta

Staff: Thomas Madden-Director Economic Development, John Varamo-Economic Development Analyst, Tommie Jackson, Assistant Director-URC, and Theresa Bowen, Office Manager-URC

Guest(s): Cynthia Anger

3. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes

a. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting held on February 11, 2021

Chairman Winkel asked for reading of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 11, 2021. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion was moved by Commissioner Fischer and second by Commissioner Feeney. Motion was passed unanimously with Commissioners present.

4. Stamford Partnerships Presentation

Commissioner Diamond joined during this agenda item.

Chairman Winkel provided the Commissioners with the history of the Stamford Partnership along with the role in the community and highlights of the programs being conducted. He stated that it's a 501 c(3) nonprofit economic and community development organization. Their role is to improve quality of life for the City of Stamford are guided by three pillars. The first pillar Public-Private Partnerships, projects include SWIFI, Stamford's Public Wi-Fi, Covid-19 Community Fund which enables organizations and their volunteers to provide meals and food. The second pillar is ecosystem projects which include TechForward a digital skill building and workforce development program and Stamford Innovation Week, an innovation and tech festival. The last pillar is talent development which includes Leadership Fairfield County program which is a professional development program.

5. Chairperson's Report

Chairman Winkel stated the letter of support for Minority Business Engagement has been submitted to the Board of Reps. Lastly, there have been no new requests for opinions.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Madden provided the Commissioners with work being done with Advanced CT. He gave a quick update about Corporate Leases. Lastly, he stated the annual and quarterly reports are being finalized and will be released shortly.

7. Old Business

a. Meeting Agenda Items Draft

Chairman Winkel stated this item can be removed from the agenda.

b. Minority Business Engagement by City of Stamford Draft Proposal

This item was covered earlier in the agenda under Chairperson's report with the letter of support being sent to the Board of Representatives.

8. New Business

a. Ordinance governing short term rentals in Stamford

Mr. Madden provided the Commissioners with an update on this subject matter and details of the license that would be issued by the Department of Health. Lastly, he reviewed the proposed addition to standard conditions for apartment buildings.

b. Next Meeting

i. Discussion-Next Meeting Agenda

a. University Over Lay Zone

ii. Confirmation-Next Regular Meeting (Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 4pm)

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Adjournment

Chairman Winkel requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:34pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Fischer with second from Commissioner Diamond. Chairman Winkel conducted a roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Huerta", followed by a long horizontal line and the date "5/24/2021".

James "Jim" Huerta,
Secretary-Economic Development Commission