David R. Martin Mayor

Thomas Madden, AICP Director of Economic Development



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Stephen Fischer Vice Chairman

> James Huerta Secretary

Mark Diamond ESQ.

Member

Margaret Feeney Member

CITY OF STAMFORD

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Stamford Government Center-Stamford, Connecticut Regular Meeting- Thursday, May 13, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the City of Stamford Economic Development Commission (EDC) Office of Economic Development (OED) was held on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 4:03pm 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, James Huerta and Mark Diamond Absent: Margaret Feeney

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

3. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes

a. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting held on March 11, 2021 Chairman Winkel asked if the Commissioners have read the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 11, 2021. He then asked for a motion to accept these minutes. A motion was moved by Commissioner Diamond with second by Commissioner Fischer. Chairman Winkel conducted a roll call vote. Motion was passed unanimously with Commissioners present.

4. Chairperson's Report

Chairman Winkel stated there have been no new requests for opinions. However, Chairman Winkel suggested the Commissioners outreach on booking requests for opinions.

5. Director's Report

Mr. Madden provided the Commissioners with a business update. He stated the Q1 report was sent out and posted to Choose Stamford section of the website and Q2 is being worked on. He updated the Commissioners on working with AdvanceCT for Economic Development week.

Lastly, he reviewed the federal money for Stamford and Fairfield County under the Recovery Act. Ongoing discussions with the Mayor for small business development is currently taking place.

6. Old Business

a. University Zone Overlay

Mr. Madden reviewed the draft Memo and map of the University Zone. The University and Research Overlay District is designed to:

- Encourage investment in higher density affordable housing for students, faculty and staff.
- Promote the ability for faculty, students and staff to live in the vicinity of their work and academic institutions.
- Improve multimodal access and create a more pedestrian-oriented environment.
- Promote uses that complement the needs of higher education institutions and expand Stamford's research capacity.

The next steps would be to review with Corporation Counsel.

b. Minority Business Engagement Update

Mr. Madden stated that the letter has been given to the President of the Board of Representatives and hasn't been scheduled yet. However stated a Harvard Fellow will start mid-June to assist with updating the McKinsey study along with two other interns. Chairman Winkel requested that Mr. Madden send an e-mail to the Board of Reps President for a status update.

c. Ordinance governing short term rentals in Stamford update Mr. Madden stated he will be going to meet with Land Use and will provide the Commissioners an update thereafter.

7. New Business

- a. Next Meeting
 - i. Discussion-Next Meeting Agenda
 - ii. Confirmation-Next Regular Meeting (Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 4pm)

Public Comment None.

9. Adjournment

Chairman Winkel requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:37pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Diamond with second from Commissioner Huerta. Chairman Winkel conducted a roll call vote. Motion passed unanimously. With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

James "Jim" Huerta,

Secretary-Economic Development Commission