



David R. Martin
Mayor

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Development



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Vice Chairman

James Huerta
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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, August 12, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the City of Stamford Economic Development Commission (EDC) Office of Economic Development (OED) was held on Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 4:02pm 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 4:02pm.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Jonathan Winkel, Stephen Fischer, James Huerta, Mark Diamond and Margaret Feeney

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

Chairman Winkel asked Mr. Madden to share the news with the Commissioners regarding the Census Announcement. Mr. Madden was pleased to proclaim that as confirmed by the U.S. Census, Stamford has grown from 122,643 to 135,470 and this has placed Stamford as the second largest city in Connecticut just behind Bridgeport. This growth in numbers will bring more funding, a redistricting for representation will bring an extra person to represent Stamford in Hartford.

3. Presentation Technology Incubation Program (TIP)-Margaret Feeney

Commissioner Feeney gave an overview and history of the program. The target goal was originally set at five (5), they now have seventeen (17) data science start-ups. They continue to hit all the grant milestones and continue to grow the program.

4. Reading and Acceptance of Minutes

a. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting held on June 10, 2021

Chairman Winkel asked if the Commissioners have read the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on June 10, 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 all Commissioners present.



5. Chairperson's Report

Chairman Winkel stated he has received no new requests for opinions nor any direct contact for EDC business. He also reminded the Commissioners to promote the opportunity to obtain opinions with fellow city appointed officials and commissioners.

6. Director's Report

Mr. Madden announced the schedule for the upcoming Commission presentations with invitations being confirmed for the following to speak: Chamber of Commerce in September, Building One Community in October, Boys and Girls Club in November, Future 5 in December, UConn Stamford in January, Women's Business Development Council in February, State DECD in March and CT Convention and Sport Bureau in April. He also announced the good news about ITT, a Fortune 800 global manufacturer and technology company, is relocating its corporate headquarters to Stamford from White Plains, NY. The Village, a new indoor/outdoor premium waterfront campus has been busy with events and has added three (3) new financial companies. Stay tuned for a major announcement coming between September 5th and 7th for a company that will be moving into Stamford. The other big news is about film production. Netflix will shoot a Stephen King novella in the fall. Disney is currently shooting a movie Chang Can Dunk. The Netflix movie The Good Nurse just finished filming and a few commercials. Lastly, an intern project for a Film & TV Permit Book is being developed.

7. Old Business

a. University Zone Overlay

Mr. Madden stated as previously presented with the 5 different areas looked at and now have met with all the property owners, BLT, the State property, Stamford Town Center, Uconn Stamford, and the Stamford Health property. There was not a lot of interest to move forward to have the Zone applied. However, this Zone will be part of the Innovation Corridors application. Next steps, will be a public hearing at an upcoming Zoning Board meeting.

b. Minority Business Engagement Update

Mr. Madden provided the Commissioners with a status update and intern research being done as a follow to the McKinsey study which should be completed by the end of August and will be presented at the September meeting.

c. Ordinance governing short term rentals in Stamford update

Mr. Madden stated this being reviewed by Corporation Counsel.

8. New Business

Commissioner Fischer asked Mr. Madden if something new was happening at the mall. Mr. Madden replied new companies and restaurant will be moving in but no announcements have been made yet

a. Next Meeting

i. Discussion-Next Meeting Agenda

Mr. Madden requested Chairman Winkel to add the Film & TV permit book to the agenda along with the updated McKinsey report. Chairman Winkel agreed to add these items to Old Business.

ii. Confirmation-Next Regular Meeting (Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 4pm)

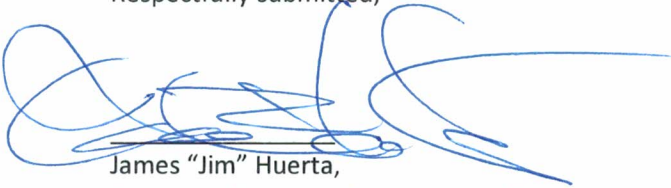
9. Public Comment

None.

10. Adjournment

Chairman Winkel requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:30pm. A motion was made by Commissioner Feeney with second from Commissioner Fischer. 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