



**SPECIAL  
EDC MEETING**  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2017 AT 5:15 PM  
TOWN OFFICES AT HOLLY GREEN PLAZA

**MINUTES**

**B. Mastroianni called the Meeting of the EDC to order at 5:20pm.** The meeting was considered an Executive Meeting as there was not a full quorum of members but three Commission Officers were present.

**Members in Attendance were:** *B. Mastroianni, D. Isom, and G. Tattersall*

**Members absent:** *B. Campagna and A. Sadowski, D. Tillman-Brown, B. Bartick,*

**Newly Elected Members Present:** *Sam Cherenzia, Paul Simonds, and Toula Balestracci*

**Staff present:** *J. Hodge, PDZO*

**Public in attendance:** Mike Urgo, Nita Kincaid, and Bob Carlson (Selectmen Elect)

**Public Comments:** Mike Urgo spoke to the Commission members about the importance of Economic Development and his plans to attend future meetings to discuss some thoughts and ideas he has. Mr. Urgo proposed that the EDC Meet 2x month with the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting being just before the Planning and Zoning meeting so that there could be some overlap to discuss issues that come up that may involve P&Z Action.

**Minutes:** Commission did not review any minutes.

**New Business**

**B. Mastroianni discussed the following three items as priorities for the EDC:**

- Creating a Year-round Farmers Market (former agenda item) and planning some open forums for farmers;
- Forming sub-committees to tackle certain projects or work on agenda items etc. now that there is a full board;
- New use for the Old Firehouse once the EMS Building is complete - discussed the possibility of moving the Senior Center and Recreation Office to the Old Fire House.
- PDZO Report

M. Urgo suggested that the EDC focus on recruiting new business to town and efforts be made to network with other organizations to promote the Town. Other ideas discussed:

- Helping existing businesses expand
- Develop a strategy for business visitation – utilizing Commission Members
- Consider splitting off the Zoning Enforcement Role from the PDZO so that J. Hodge can have more time to spend on things like business visitation and business recruitment.
- Develop marketing material. J. Hodge discussed Map idea and recent interest by James Dodd from Impact Design to design a map/brochure for North Stonington.
- Focus on bringing in new families. Discussed the importance of investing in our schools and providing
- Efforts could be made to improve the Town Fire Rating to lower the cost of insurance to businesses.
- Work on building infrastructure necessary to foster economic development (i.e. water and sewer)
- Plan a joint meeting with Stonington EDC to discuss a more regional approach to development.

J. Hodge discussed her efforts to ensure that the development process is smooth and focused on great customer service and quick application turn-around time. She stated that Developers have to want to develop in your town – so the smoother the process, the better.

EDC needs to revisit the Action Plan and decide which steps are still relevant.

Suggestion that J. Hodge set up a meeting with MPTN, the new Selectmen and Brett.

Brett handed out a copy of the By-laws and review discrepancies in current bylaws vs 2009 version.

Motion made and seconded (D. Isom/G. Tattersall) to approve funding for the All Board and Commission Member Symposium not to exceed \$850. Motion Passed 3:0 (3 officers present)

Motion made and seconded (D. Isom/B. Mastroianni) to send the following names to the BOS for appointment to the EDC: Asa Palmer and George Tattersall

Discussed the event at Buon Appetito that will follow this EDC Meeting.

**Motion made and seconded (D. Isom/G. Tattersall) to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm. Motion carried**

Next Meeting is the Regular meeting on December 21, 2017 at 5:15pm Town Offices Holly Green Plaza.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Juliet Hodge*

Juliet Hodge, PDZO