



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Economic Development Commission Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 22, 2022 at 5:30pm
Held Virtually via Zoom

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Crowther at 5:32pm. Commission members Ron Jodice, Tom Earl, Charmaine Seavy, Brooke Freeman, and Caroline Meckel were present. Ex officio member Heather Goetz (Board of Selectmen) was also present. Staff members in attendance included: Maria Capriola, Town Manager; George McGregor, Director of Planning and Community Development and Thomas Fitzgerald, Management Specialist. Also in attendance was Wendy Mackstutis, First Selectman, and Morgan Hilyard, Executive Director of the Granby-Simsbury Chamber of Commerce.

1) Minutes of December 14, 2022

Mr. Earl made a motion to approve the minutes of December 14, 2022, Mr. Jodice seconded the motion and all were in favor.

2) Development Update – George McGregor, Director of Planning and Community Development

Mr. McGregor walked the group through a presentation on current and future development projects in Town. Members from the Economic Development Commission engaged in questions and answers to Mr. McGregor during his presentation.

3) Stakeholder and Liaison Updates

a) Main Street Partnership

No update given.

b) Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Hilyard announced that Mr. McGregor would be taking over on the Chamber Board of Directors replacing Ms. Appleby. The Government Affairs committee held a meeting on February 21st that had Economic Development presentations by Simsbury and Granby Planning Director's. The 2023 Community Guide is being created and printed.

c) Zoning

Mr. Jodice said that the focus has been on cannabis but that the Board of Selectmen ordinance on that subject might stall that.

d) Design Review

Mr. Crowther said that Design Review was discussing the affordable housing submission on Hopmeadow Street.

e) Sustainability

Mr. Crowther said that the same project that DRB discussed came to the Sustainability Committee and stated they are trying to make the building as Net 0 as possible.

f) DEI Council

Mr. Earl said he has been focused on the DEI Housing Subcommittee and provided an update received from members of the subcommittee

g) Development Projects

None

h) Historical Society Support

None

i) Other

None

4) 2022-2023 EDC Work Plan Update

Mr. Crowther said that he is working with Tom Fitzgerald to schedule the 2023 business outreach visits. He noted that if people are interested in being included to let him know once the schedule of visits is finalized.

Ms. Capriola said that in her proposed budget there is funding for the Tourism Map project.

In regards to the website updates, Mr. Crowther noted that this will be an ongoing, long-term project. Mr. Crowther said that Ms. Appleby did do an initial look and updated some parts of it.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Fitzgerald
Management Specialist