



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Economic Development Work Group

Monday, June 25, 2018

7:30 a.m.

Main Meeting Room, Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Members Present: Cheryl Cook, Eric Wellman

Staff Present: Maria Capriola, Melissa Appleby

Guests Present: Sarah Nielsen

The meeting was called to order at 7:40am.

1) Public Audience

None

2) Discussion on Economic Development Commission Ordinance

Ms. Capriola gave a brief overview of the draft ordinance, which is based on feedback from the Work Group, input from various stakeholders, and sample ordinances from other towns. Under "Purpose of Commission," the group discussed the commission as advisory to the Board of Selectmen. It was decided that the Town Manager should be removed from that sentence in order to clarify that the Board of Selectmen has sole policy-setting authority for economic development.

Under "Appointment of Members," there was discussion around term length and term limits. There was consensus for three-year staggered terms, and terms not to exceed a total of two full terms. Section (a)(2) permits electors, which includes non-resident property owners, to be appointed to the commission; the group identified a need to clearly define this term.

The group reviewed the proposed list of member slots and ex-officio members, and determined that Main Street Partnership and the Chamber of Commerce should not be included in the membership list. The group also discussed the need to incorporate tourism into economic development, and how the Tourism Committee may be linked to the new economic development commission. There was consensus that the Tourism Committee's charge and membership should be reviewed and possibly updated by the Board of Selectmen after the economic development ordinance is finalized.

The remainder of the draft ordinance was discussed with no revisions proposed. Staff will prepare an updated draft to be considered by the Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on July 9, 2018, with the option to advance the ordinance to a public hearing.

3) Minutes of May 30, 2018

The minutes of May 30, 2018 were approved as presented by consensus.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Appleby
Deputy Town Manager