

**Town of East Windsor  
Economic Development Commission**

**11 Rye Street, P.O. Box 389**

**Broad Brook, CT 06016**

Website: <http://www.eastwindsorct.com>

***Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 16, 2016***

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**I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

*Members Present:* Eric Moffett, Andy Hoffman and Bill Kehoe.

*Also Present:* Robert Maynard, First Selectman

Chairman Moffett called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of April 18, 2016.

Hoffman / Kehoe / / Unanimous

**IV. GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

**Small Business Center**

Mr. Hoffman indicated that he would like to have the first meeting sooner than September. He suggested having it in July. He said at the last meeting he gave the EDC members a strategy as to how it should be done. He suggested starting with Jim Richards. He has agreed to put it in his e-blast. He would also like to put something in the J.I. Mr. Hoffman said he would also like to call every one of the people he talked to when he did his business visits. He said Larry Tribble has a lot of ideas. He would like to define for people what the Town would like to do to understand and help them with any problems they would have in dealing with the town. We can start to form an alliance with our business

members in town. Mr. Moffett questioned who would be the person that they would go to for help. He asked Mr. Hoffman if he would be willing to put in some hours. Mr. Hoffman said he would be happy to. Mr. Moffett said if we start with the fielding of the calls, that would be a start. It could be simply putting them in touch with the right departments in town. He suggested about three hours per week.

Mr. Moffett said if they have the first meeting in July his concern would be that it is a vacation time. Mr. Hoffman said he would like to go to Merlot on the Water the first time, possibly for a breakfast meeting. Mr. Moffett suggested they put this on the town's facebook page. He talked about getting email contacts for all of the businesses. He said the first thing we have to do is develop the agenda. Mr. Maynard said to develop an agenda you need a goal or objective. Mr. Moffett noted that they came up with a mission statement. Mr. Hoffman asked Mr. Kehoe to put together what he thinks will be a good advertising plan. Mr. Kehoe said he will try to have that by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Moffett felt that they should have the meetings quarterly. Mr. Hoffman suggested for the first meeting having Mr. Maynard, Mr. Moffett and Denise Whitford from UConn speak. He felt it should be limited to five minutes each and then open it up to questions and answers. He said at the next EDC meeting we can decide on the right date. We should develop a format and agenda at the next meeting.

Mr. Maynard said he went to the North Central CT Chamber of Commerce recently. He said it was pretty impressive. There were about 50 people there. They put out some good information. He also noted that Somers makes a business directory every two years. It is paid for by the businesses. Mr. Maynard said he would call the Town of Somers and find out more about it.

### **Northern Route 5 Business Corridor**

Mr. Moffett said at the last meeting they talked about possibly having an expo center at the former Walmart building. He said he reached out to an event production company to ask about that. When the CT. Expo closed people were forced to go with the CT Convention Center. He was told that the issue with East Windsor would be that most the product shows are already established there or at the Big E. There might be some smaller shows that would be interested. Mr. Moffett said they were mildly interested. He said the next step is that someone needs to get in touch with Walmart to determine the feasibility of having an expo center there. It was suggested that Roger O'Brien contact Walmart.

### **Discussion of Economic Development Issues**

Mr. Maynard noted that there is a senior housing project that wants to build on Route 140. He explained that we now have a tax incentive program and suggested that Mr. O'Brien talks with the developers.

Mr. Hoffman said he has two lobbyists that would be willing to talk to Mr. Maynard about what they will be willing to do for the Town of East Windsor and maybe set up a partnership for the Town. The development of the Route 5 corridor would be an issue to discuss. Mr. Moffett suggested that they see what the lobbyists have to say. He said we are very limited and should focus on the small businesses and the northern Route 5 corridor.

Mr. Hoffman said we should build a logic chart to let businesses know that they need to do. He asked Mr. Kehoe to put together a logic chart. Mr. Kehoe said he would try to have something by the July meeting.

Mr. Hoffman indicated that he went to a Board of Finance meeting and it went quite well. They were receptive to having Roger O'Brien on board and funded so that he can do meaningful work.

### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** To adjourn. Hoffman / Kehoe / Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bauer, Recording Secretary