

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON, CT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

DATE: April 11, 2018
TIME: 5:30 P.M.
PLACE: Conference Room A

MINUTES

Present

Augusto Russell Carol King
John Karwoski Robert Reeve
Brian Connolly Daniel Kleinman
Bill Wadsworth Ed Giannaros

Staff

Rose Ponte

A. Call to Order

a. Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Connolly at 5:35 pm

B. Public Comment – No Comments

C. Reading of the Minutes

A motion was made and seconded (Wadsworth / Reeve) to accept the March 14, 2018 minutes. Commissioners Karwoski and Connolly abstained. The **motion carried**.

D. Economic Developers Report- The report was reviewed by the Commissioners.

E. EDC Marketing Materials Update

Rose has been working with Journey Communications, a local marketing firm, to develop a marketing plan for the EDC. Moving forward a marketing subcommittee will work with Journey Communications to develop a plan and update the EDC's marketing materials. Commissioner Russell and Connolly both volunteered to serve on the Marketing Committee. The Committee will report back to the Commission.

F. Bioscience Enterprise Corridor Zone Update

The State of CT has cut funding to municipalities for Enterprise Corridor Zone. Under the original legislation an eligible enterprise corridor business could receive 5 year 80% real estate property tax abatement. The state would reimburse the municipality 40% of the abatement. The state's 40% portion of the reimbursement has been cancelled. Rose will work with other Economic Development Directors to make recommendations to DECD about the program.

G. Town Council Liaison Report-

Councilman Giannaros gave the Commission a full update on the Council's recommended budget, the capital budget, the reval process, and a review of the grand list growth.

H. Old Business

1. **Explore Farmington-** There has been continual growth in the amount of users to the daily site. Nancy Parent, Director of Community Services, placed an Explore Farmington ad on the back cover of the Spring-Summer recreation catalog which resulted in increased visits to the site.
2. **EDC Meeting Schedule**

The June meeting has to be rescheduled. Rose will email the Commissioners and see what date in June works for everyone.

3. **Small Business Resource Program:** The first event of the Small Business Resource Program will be in partnership with Power Hawke. The topic will be Business Solar Photovoltaic Solutions. It will take place on June 13, at the Power Hawke headquarters. The Library will be our next partner and will feature a fall program centered on cyber-security.

I. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded (Reeve/ Kleinmann) to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. **Approved unanimously**

**Respectfully Submitted,
Rose Ponte
Economic Development Director**

CC: Economic Development Commissioners