

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
RESCHEDULED ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014
6:30 P.M., UPSTAIRS FOYER**

MINUTES

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Note: These are summary minutes. A tape recording of this meeting is on file in the Commission Secretary's Office in the Wolcott Town Hall.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Mayor Thomas Dunn called the Organizational Meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and attendance was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Dandio, Mary Kelly, Sean Hughes, Dave Grant Richard Mansfield, Robyn Mazas arrived at 6:50 p.m.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Mulhall

Mayor Dunn gave a brief summary of past Economic Development meetings and how it is a town and location, etc. is important for economic development. He said the commission was pretty active in 2003 and 2004 but then the economy when bad. He feels there is opportunity out there for things to happen and hopefully it will happen as there are properties in town to promote. He asked the Commission members to reach out to people in town and get some ideas.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mayor Thomas Dunn asked for nominations for a Chairman.

Greg Dandio nominated Mary Kelly for Chairperson with a second by Sean Hughes.

Mayor Dunn asked three times if there were any other nominations and there were none.

Upon **MOTION** by Richard Mansfield, seconded by Greg Dandio, it was unanimously voted to **CLOSE** the nomination.

By voice call vote it was unanimously voted to elect Mary Kelly as Chairperson.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mayor Thomas Dunn asked for nominations for a Vice-Chairman.

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Sean Hughes nominated Greg Dandio as Vice-Chairman with a second by Richard Mansfield.

Mayor Dunn asked three times if there were any other nominations and there were none.

Upon **MOTION** by Sean Hughes, seconded by Richard Mansfield, it was unanimously voted to **CLOSE** the nomination.

By voice call vote it was unanimously voted to elect Greg Dandio as Vice-Chairman.

TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING

Chairperson Kelly asked for a motion to set time and place of regular meeting.

A **MOTION** was offered by Greg Dandio to meet at the same time as they regularly met in the past, which was 7:00. There was a brief discussion and the outcome was as follows:

Upon **MOTION** by Greg Dandio, seconded by Richard Mansfield, it was unanimously voted to **SET the TIME and PLACE** for the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday of every month in the upstairs foyer of the Town Hall.

Chairperson Kelly gave a brief discussion and said she would like to bring this commission forward to do something constructive for the town and see if we can work with our town businesses and also see if we can bring new business into town. She said if we work together and bring forth different ideas as to where we are today and where we want to go from here on. She said she is a team player and asked the members to bring forth their ideas, bring forth your positive or negative so we can work together as a whole when making a decision. She said she would like to set a goal or mission statement and for members to think about it for the next meeting. She said she would like to make it an effective commission. Greg Dandio agreed.

Upon **MOTION** by Greg Dandio, seconded by Sean Hughes, it was unanimously voted to **ADJOURN** the Organizational Meeting at 6:43 p.m.

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REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kelly called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. (Attendance was the same as listed above for the Organizational Meeting).

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon **MOTION** by Sean Hughes, seconded by Greg Dandio, it was unanimously voted to **APPROVE** the minutes of the Rescheduled Regular Meeting on 11/18/2013.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no Correspondences at this time.

IV. PUBLIC REQUESTS

There were no Public Requests at this time.

V. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Greg Dandio stated he believes there were no existing Sub-Committees from the previous Commission.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. On-Line Business Directory and Print Version

Dave Grant said where this was left off was that the Commission was trying to get local businesses information on-line and it would be part of the town website. He said his company (CT Web Factory) is developing this right now. He said the site is ready to go he is just waiting to get the content and he is working with Chris O'Brien on this. Chairperson Kelly asked if they contacted all the businesses in town to get said information. Greg Dandio asked if the Chamber of Commerce had a listing of businesses. Dave Grant said they do and he said there are currently around 67 members but there are a lot more businesses in town. Chairperson Kelly asked how do you know of all the small mom and pop shops. It was stated that you can get

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a listing from the Assessor's Office. Also, it was stated that a few years ago there was a mailing sent to the approx. 800 businesses with only around 70 to 80 responses. It was also stated to put something in the Wolcott Community News. Greg Dandio said he thinks this is a worthwhile project but doesn't believe the on-line directory should be the main focus of this Commission. He said in his opinion we need to work on bringing business into town and not get overly burdened with this directory. Greg Dandio suggested getting a sub-committee together to work on the directory and report back at future meetings.

Upon **MOTION** by Greg Dandio, seconded by Sean Hughes, it was unanimously voted to **FORM** a Sub-Committee for the purpose of on-line business directory and business information.

At this time Robyn Mazas arrived at 6:50 p.m. Chairperson Kelly then went on to explain to Robyn what has been the discussion so far with the on-line directory and how to bring it forward without making it the main goal and they were looking for members to be on the sub-committee.

(The Sub-Committee was formed with Dave Grant and Greg Dandio).

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Kelly stated there was no New Business listed on the agenda but she said she would love to be able to check how businesses in town are doing and what we can do to bring new business to town. Richard Mansfield suggested checking with other towns to see what they are doing and also inquired about what incentives we have. It was suggested to have the State Representatives come to the next meeting. Sean Hughes said that there is a mission statement currently on the website. He said he did some preliminary research as to where we can go for resources for guiding businesses for state loans, etc. He also stated that we would have to use a comparable municipality to see what they offer and how they reach out to businesses rather than the larger cities.

VIII. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Chairperson Kelly said we already have the mission statement so she said she would like to find out about our small town funds through the state and would like to bring in the state reps to the next meeting. She said this is all new so let's look at the budget for the 2014 year. She said bringing in two speakers for the next meeting

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and if the members can think about any other ideas would both be great. She said that when the new Dollar General store opens we, as a Commission, should be there to welcome them to town.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Upon **MOTION** by Greg Dandio, seconded by Sean Hughes, it was unanimously voted to **ADJOURN** the Regular Meeting at 6:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

Mary M. Kelly, Chairperson
Economic Development Commission

Edna Henderson, Recording Secretary
Economic Development Commission