

KILLINGLY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 5, 2024
Killingly Town Hall
Meeting Room 102
172 Main Street
Killingly, CT



Minutes

Bill Cheng -Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM. Chairperson appointed Jay Lirette as a voting member.

1. Roll Call:

Members Present: Jay Lirette, Bill Cheng, Todd Cooke, Dale Desmarais, Mark Tillinghast
Absent: Kevin Cole, Eva-Marie Roberts (with notice).

Others Present: Jill St. Clair, Economic Development Director, Tammy Wakefield, Town Council Liaison, Patty George, Town Council Liaison.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Dale Desmarais made a **MOTION** to accept the November 7, 2023, minutes as presented. Motion was **SECONDED** by Jay Lirette. The voice vote was **ALL IN FAVOR**.

3. Correspondence –

4. Citizen's Participation –

5. Unfinished Business:

- a) Economic Development Trust Fund: \$304,502.38 plus \$530.80 in interest.
- b) Update of Projects:
 - Brickyard Plaza is in "design to construction phase." Anticipation for contractor bids to go out in spring 2024.
 - National Endowment of the Arts design presentation of integration of elements into the Art Park.
 - EPA Brownfield Grant- the town RFP for a QEP closes March 12th.
 - 140 Main Street has filled the first-floor commercial spaces with CrossFit Underdog Union, Little River Bakery, Chubby Dog Coffee.

6. New Business:

- a) Presentation to the commission by LAMAR Central Outdoor, LLC for a proposed development of a single pole back-to-back, 14' x 48' Digital Bulletin structure with two faces. Site location identified as 1032 North Main Street to be facing Interstate 395. The Economic Development Commission reviewed sign regulations under Section 540.2.7. Chairperson Cheng called for a roll call **VOTE** to recommend the approval of the billboard structure with the recommendation that considerable progress to completion occur within two years with an extension option for unforeseen permitting, utility, and supply chain delays. The vote was **UNANIMOUS** and will move to the Director of Planning & Development and the Town Manager for additional approvals.
- b) Brownfields Community Outreach Steering Committee- In accordance with the FY23 EPA Multiuse grant award, The Economic Development Commission will assist in brownfield community outreach engagement activities, associated with grant activities. Dale Desmarais volunteered to participate on the outreach committee.
- c) Tourism Updates- The State of Connecticut has revamped the CT logo and will be integrating marketing platforms to include the "work, live, play."
- d) Updated Business Directory- The economic development office will be updating the online business directory.
- e) Housing Market-Discussion on proposed Housing Growth Fund and other initiatives to increase housing stock. Dale Desmarais made a recommendation for the commission to look into opportunities to rehabilitate existing/

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Eva-Marie Roberts, Liaison

underutilized housing stock.

7. Liaison Reports:

Patti George reported the town council will be having a goal setting session on March 9th and will be moving into the budget sessions over the next two months.

8. Commission Member Reports – Bill Cheng Open Space Commission- no meeting. Jay Lirette reported on the NECID Realtors meeting with continued activity in the region and an increase for housing units needed.

9. Adjournment:

Todd Cooke made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 6:38 PM. Dale Desmarais **SECOND** the motion. The voice vote, **ALL IN FAVOR.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jill St. Clair', is positioned above the typed name.

Jill St. Clair, Recording Secretary