

MINUTES
STAMFORD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING OF

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2007

Time: 8:30 am

Place: Government Center, 10th Floor

ATTENDEES:

Economic Development Commission

Joel Selden, Chair

Mike Pansini, Vice Chair

Denis Patterson

Barry Haines

Fran Pastore

Economic Development Staff

Mike Freimuth

Lenora Cavaliero

Joel Selden opened the meeting at 8:35am.

The Minutes of March 20, 2007 and May 21, 2007 were approved.

Legislative Update

Chairman Selden asked Mike Freimuth to give an update on the economic development matters as they were debated and approved by the recently completed General Assembly session. Freimuth reported that there were a variety of pertinent issues that were successfully adopted including new brownfield legislation, energy laws, changes to eminent domain proceedings and smart growth initiatives.

The city is working on submitting a request for designation as a brownfield pilot city as a result of the new legislation. Similarly, the city has retained an energy consultant to begin

the necessary tasks to establish an energy improvement district as an economic development tool. Freimuth noted that his duties were modified earlier in the year to include legislative work in both Hartford and in Washington and he testified on the energy, brownfield and eminent domain matters during the last few months.

Enterprise Zone Bi-Annual Report

The commissioners reviewed the 2007 bi-annual report on activity within the enterprise zone. The report was submitted to the Board of Representatives and the Board of Finance and was approved by the Enterprise Zone Board earlier.

It was noted that enterprise zone companies have found it difficult to grow in the zone due to space restrictions. Further, the zone itself is going through demographic and physical changes due to the Antares project. There are 32 companies active in the program employing over 2000.

Minority Procurement Assessment

At the suggestion of the Office of Economic Development, the city is assessing its minority procurement efforts. Commissioner Pastore has represented the commission in this effort. A consultant team has been chosen and contracts should be in place by the end of the fiscal year with work scheduled for the summer/fall 2007 time period.

Other Items

The commission discussed the recent floods within the Mill River area and the need to secure funding to remove the lower river dam for environmental and economic reasons. Freimuth indicated that the city was pursuing funds in Washington to undertake this task.

The members also discussed the status of the South End TIF and what items might be appropriate to fund from the TIF including basic infrastructure and open space.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at 8:30 am in the Mayor's Conference Room, Government Center.

There is NO JULY MEETING.

Respectfully submitted,
The Office of Economic Development