

**Economic Development Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2008**

Members Present: Richard Nunn, Chairman
Joseph Mirra, Vice-Chairman
Tom Collette
Gary Fappiano *
Rosemarie Preneta **

Members Absent: Jim Wolfe

Others Present: Don Roe
Doreen DeSarro, Business Recruiter

Chairman Dick Nunn called the special meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. Due to a lack of quorum at the start of the meeting, Dick suggested meeting discussion start with Item 5 – Subcommittee Reports.

5. Subcommittee Reports

- **Planning & Zoning Liaison** – Joe Mirra reported that he and Jim plan to attend Planning & Zoning Commission workshop on the Incentive Housing Zone. This workshop is tentatively scheduled for December 15 but subcommittee members have not yet received an agenda. Don Roe said a staff member will try to attend as well.
- **Marketing** – Tom Collette reported that Mr. Robert Errato of BThrifty met with the subcommittee to brief them on what his company offers in terms of advertising.

* Gary Fappiano arrived at 5:12 p.m.

The company arranges for group advertising on local cable channels. Mr. Errato will meet with WCI staff and local merchants on December 9 to see if Wallingford merchants and restaurants are interested in marketing the downtown in this way. The company is currently working with downtown Middletown.

Don suggested Mr. Errato's presentation at WCI be limited to a ½ hour and use the additional time to discuss other ideas on marketing in the downtown.

Since the EDC now had quorum, the Chairman entertained the following two motions:

1. **Approval of Minutes dated November 3, 2008** – Joe Mirra made a motion to approve the November minutes as drafted; Joe Mirra seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Joe Mirra made a motion to Table Items 2, 3, 4 and 6; Tom Collette seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

The Commission returned to the discussion concerning **Item 5 - Subcommittee Reports**.

- **Retention/Incentives** – Gary Fappiano first asked Dick Nunn if the Public Utilities Commission had approved continuing the 10% Electric Rate Discount Program; Dick replied that the PUC will discuss this at their December meeting.

** Rosemarie Preneta arrived at 5:28 p.m.

Dick Nunn added that the Marketing Subcommittee also discussed reaching out to companies outside the U.S. Doreen DeSarro said that the subcommittee discussed working with the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce about this idea.

Gary finished his report for Retention/Incentives by saying that the subcommittee will recommend lowering the threshold for the Personal Property Tax Incentive and continues to discuss the Real Property Tax Incentive Program for Manufacturers.

7. **Discussion and Possible Action on Meeting Schedules for 2009** – Joe Mirra made a motion to approve the meeting schedules for 2009; Tom Collette seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

There being no further business, Tom Collette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m.; Joe Mirra seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Wolff