



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

www.ellington-ct.gov

TEL. (860) 870-3120 TOWN PLANNER'S OFFICE FAX (860) 870-3122

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019, 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL ANNEX, 57 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT**

PRESENT: Chairman Sean Kelly, Regular Member Donna Resutek, Regular Member Danielle Hubley, and Alternate Stefanie Cunningham

ABSENT: Vice Chairman Chris Todd, Regular Member David Hurley, and Alternate Sulakshana Thanvanthri

STAFF

PRESENT: Lisa M. Houlihan, Town Planner and Acting Recording Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sean Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS (on non-agenda items): None

III. ACTIVE BUSINESS:

1. Report: Tolland County Chamber of Commerce

Lisa Houlihan, Town Planner, reported that she serves on the Chamber's Economic Development Committee, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee. Committee members continue to focus on organizing annual events. There was nothing further to report.

2. Report: Agricultural Initiatives

The draft Right to Farm Ordinance has been endorsed by applicable land use commissions, referred to the Board of Selectmen's Ordinance Committee, and reviewed by the Town Attorney. The Ordinance Committee will reconvene on May 13, 2019, to review revisions to the draft ordinance suggested by the Town Attorney. It's anticipated that the ordinance will be referred back to the BOS and set for vote.

3. Report: Business Directory/Business Surveys and Site Visits

a. GoLocal – Ellington, CT Audience Review – March 2019

Chairman Kelly reviewed the Shop Ellington report for March.

4. Report: Sustainable Ellington

a. 1.4 - Provide Resources and Supports to Local Businesses

b. 1.5 - Promote Sustainable Workforce Development

The commission discussed ideas about programs to recognize local businesses. Past ideas included holding a Meet & Greet at a local business like LuAnn's or Cold Creek Brewery to give local businesses a forum to network. The commission referred to the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce's annual awards program. Ms. Houlihan

explained the Chamber grants annual awards for economic development, beautification, corporate citizen, and best new business. A variety of recent commercial activity in Ellington would qualify for local recognition.

Commissioner Cunningham explained a program offered by Metro Hartford Alliance and suggested they establish an Ellington Day to honor businesses and ask Representative Davis to participate. Commissioner Cunningham suggested that proclamations be given to award-worthy projects and business practices. Commissioners expressed interest for continuing discussion next month to further develop ideas and seek input from absent commissioners. Chairman Kelly will contact Representative Davis about participating in an Ellington Day and a future Meet & Greet.

Given routine overlap of discussion with agenda items #3 and #4, Chairman Kelly asked that future agendas be revised to combine the two items. He suggested that agendas maintain a report for the Business Directory and include items a. and b. under Sustainable Ellington as subcategories.

5. Report: Tax Incentive/Abatement Programs

Nothing to report.

6. Report: Current Economic Activity

Nothing to report.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

1. Approval of the March 13, 2019 regular meeting minutes

Chairman Kelly asked that the minutes be revised to reflect the correct spelling of Commissioner Hubley's first name from "Daniel" to "Danielle".

MOVED (RESUTEK) SECONDED (CUNNINGHAM) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MARCH 13, 2019 MEETING MINUTES AS CORRECTED.

2. Correspondence: None

V. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (CUNNINGHAM) SECONDED (HUBLEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING AT 7:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Houlihan, Acting Recording Clerk