

WINDHAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes for Monday, May 4, 2015 Meeting

Windham Town Hall, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, CT

Voting Members Present: Bill Hettinger, Pam DeVivo, Victor Funderburk, Robert Horrocks, John McCommas (7:11PM) **Voting Members Excused:** None **Voting Members Absent:** Ryan Jacobs **Guests:** Demetrio Ricciardone, Savings Institute; Kelly Mucci, Savings Institute; Mark Light, Savings Institute **Staff Present:** Dagmar Noll, Clerk **Public Present:** None

- I. **Call to Order** – Chair Hettinger called the meeting to order at 7:08PM.
- II. **Citizens & Delegations Community Comments/Questions** – None.
- III. **Review of Minutes** – R. Horrocks MOVED to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2015 meeting, V. Funderburk SECONDED. MOTION PASSED with P. DeVivo abstaining. V. Funderburk MOVED to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2015 meeting, P. DeVivo SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

IV. **Guest Speaker** – Mr. Light of Savings Institute presented an overview of ways the bank can support local businesses-- in particular businesses that are 3+ years old-- through equipment loans, commercial mortgages, leasing equipment/vehicles/software, lines of credit, and a payroll solutions company. Mr. Light discussed their relationship with the Community Economic Development Fund and their current partnership with Northeast Economic Development Corporation in the old Hurley building, which is currently being renovated into 20 apartments for veterans, with a completion date at the end of 2016. Discussion about what the town needs and how Savings Institute can partner with businesses poised to grow.

V. **Economic Development Director's Report**
None.

VI. New Business

1. Downtown Parking Ideas

Discussion about Walnut Street parking garage and what to do generally about parking. Discussion around encouraging workers to park in lots/behind buildings so customers can use street parking to shop/access services. Discussion postponed until next meeting.

VII. Old Business

1. **Downtown Business Council** – R. Horrocks reported a good meeting with 8 businesses.
2. **Downtown Arts & Eats District** – V. Funderburk reported a core group is meeting regularly. He has been receiving lots of feedback from folks in town as relationships develop. The group's goal is to get regular feedback from businesses and moving discussion forward.
3. **My Windham Projects** – V. Funderburk reported that the opening reception was very successful.
4. **Status on RFP on 804 Main Street (former tin Tsin lot)** June 1st deadline is approaching.

VIII. **Chairman's Report** – Planning & Zoning is working with the Dollar Store to work out issues on the site.

IX. **Other Reports/Correspondence/Announcements** – None.

X. **Citizens & Delegations Comments/Questions** – None.

XI. **Adjourn** – J. McCommas MOVED to adjourn the meeting. P. DeVivo SECONDED. Chair Hettinger adjourned the meeting at 9:03PM

Respectfully submitted by D. Noll, Clerk.