



NOT YET APPROVED
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MANSFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MANSFIELD TOWN HALL, 4 S. EAGLEVILLE ROAD, CONFERENCE ROOM B

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019 ■ 6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. McGuire, S. Ferrigno, C. Chukwuogor, J. Richard, D. Fecho, L. Watson, M. Hirschorn (6:34 p.m.), B. Wiles (7:27 p.m.),

MEMBERS ABSENT: A. McPhearson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: P. Shapiro (6:36 p.m.)

STAFF PRESENT: L. Painter, D. Kennedy

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

J. McGuire called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO COMMENT

None.

MINUTES

L. Watson MOVED, S. Ferrigno seconded approval of the 3-28-2019, 4-25-2019 (special joint meeting with MDP), 4-25-2019, and 5-23-2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion Approved (5-0-1) with J. Richard abstaining.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Presentation on Taste of Mansfield Business Hero Campaign**

Alexis Meehan presented an overview of activities that she is working on for the Taste of Mansfield initiative, including the upcoming business hero campaign which will recognize businesses that are sourcing from local farms. It is anticipated that EDC assistance will be needed to help promote program and recognize businesses that receive certification.

- **Subcommittee Responsibilities**

J. McGuire distributed an updated list of subcommittees with members and general ideas for responsibilities as a starting point for committee members to expand and detail. C. Chukwuogor volunteered to serve on the Opportunity Zone Support Committee. Members also discussed the possibility of creating a survey to ask people what types of businesses they would like to see in Mansfield as a way to demonstrate interest to prospective businesses.

OTHER BUSINESS FOR MEETING

- **Member Updates**

S. Ferrigno complimented the Town on the progress of the sanitary sewer project at Four Corners and noted that traffic impacts had been well-managed. J. McGuire provided an update on the current thinking with regard to parking in Downtown Storrs. Members discussed the desire to be more proactive on promoting the good things that are happening instead of just reacting to the negative stories; for example, highlighting the businesses that are doing well in Downtown Storrs and other areas. B. Wiles announced that this was his last meeting as his family was relocating out of state.

L. Watson MOVED, S. Ferrigno seconded to thank B. Wiles for his service to the community. Motion PASSED unanimously.

- **Staff Updates**

L. Painter reported that the special permit for a dance studio at 605 Middle Turnpike had been approved and provided a status update with regard to CERC's work on the Opportunity Zone.

- **EDC Calendar**

Members discussed the proposed broadband presentation. B. Wiles (sponsor) noted that with the failure of the legislature to adopt a proposed bill related to broadband, the presentation may no longer be needed/timely.

- **Openings/Closings of Businesses/Housing Changes**

Painter noted that based on pre-application meetings, staff expects to see multiple special permit applications for significant development in the coming months. Painter also noted that staff continues to reach out to the owner of East Brook Mall to discuss status of current tenants as well as potential for new/redevelopment.

FUTURE MEETINGS

J. Richard MOVED, S. Ferrigno seconded to cancel the July 25, 2019 meeting. Motion PASSED unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda M. Painter, AICP
Director of Planning and Development