

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
ESSEX TOWN HALL  
February 8, 2017 - 4:00PM**

The Essex Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Chair Lon Seidman, George Sexton, Betsy D'Amico and Janet Peckinpaugh. Also in attendance were Norm Needleman, First Selectman and Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Commission. Absent: David Winstead, Ed Cook

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lon Seidman at 4:04pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion made by Janet Peckinpaugh and seconded by George Sexton the Essex Economic Development Committee unanimously **VOTED** to table the minutes from December 14, 2016.

**INTRODUCTION**

**Visitors:**

Judy Heiser Essex Board of Trade  
Janice Atkinson  
Russ Smith Zoning  
Brian Weinstein

Mr. Seidman stated that he has decided to resign after 16 years of service. The Commission thanked him for his work on EDC. Brian Weinstein will be joining the board.

**Commissioners:**

No additional comment.

**REPORT FROM TOWN HALL/CONSULTANT/ZONING MATTERS**

Ms. Malan submitted her report previously. Mr. Needleman gave a brief report. Budgets are being worked on. State funding is expected to be reduced. A pilot payment for the hospital may be received. The Essex is due to open in May. Scotch Plains Tavern will also be opening soon. Wrights will be changing to have a more family friendly setting. Mr. Needleman introduced Russ Smith who is the representative from Zoning. Zoning is still organizing and reviewing the regulations. The revised regulations will be available for review and will then go to public hearing. The STEAP Committee is making decisions regarding how to spend the STEAP funds. WPCA will be doing a study to decide what the needs of our town is. Retailers in Essex are concerned about the empty spaces.

Mr. Seidman suggested that we focus on an anchor activity in the village and decide what sort of marketing to do. The creation of an ad-hoc committee to work with EDC and the business owners.

**COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ACTION ITEMS**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

No additional items.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly made and seconded the Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 4:42p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Commission Clerk