



**Town of New Fairfield
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, Connecticut**



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 17, 2023**

Present: James Kloos
Mark Werner
Kathleen DiTullio
Myke Fuhman (arrived 7:13 pm)

Call to Order

Mr. Kloos called the meeting to order, without a quorum, at 7:08 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Public Comment & Participation

There were none.

Approve Minutes of January 31, 2023 & February 16, 2023

Tabled until a quorum was present.

Correspondence & Announcements

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

ARPA Funding Update/Small Business Grants

Mr. Werner said the subcommittee has approved 15 or so applications and has a few more to review. There is a total of \$150,000 to be allocated for the small business grants. They have allocated about half the money so far.

Mr. Kloos said some of the business owners are reluctant to provide the required information.

Mr. Fuhman joined the meeting at 7:13 making a quorum.

Mr. Fuhman said they have not made the money available to non profits yet. He said another round of marketing, email blasts, etc could be done.

I. Spring Home Show

II. Pop Up Shop

Ms. DiTullio said she is now thinking about holding this in the fall giving more time for planning.

Mr. Kloos said he would still like to do a pop up shop maybe in the summer.

Ms. DiTullio said people don't want to be inside in the summer and suggested maybe the pop up could be in conjunction with the New Fairfield Days. Mr. Kloos said many of the home businesses take a spot on Memorial Field but maybe this could be in conjunction with the Farmers Market.

Mr. Furhman said the commission will need to vote on marketing materials and other expenditures by the June meeting to be in this years budget. Mr. Furhman suggested Mr. Kloos chair the pop up event and Ms. DiTullio continues to move the home show forward.

EDC Commission Participation in upcoming New Fairfield Events Earth Day Celebration

Ms. DiTullio said the Adopt a Spot program will be kicked off at the Earth Day event. The day will consist of garbage collecting and town wide clean up from 9 am until 11:30 and then a festival of sorts with restaurant specials, food trucks, family events, bands, etc from 12 until 3:30 pm.

Sip & Stroll

Ms. DiTullio suggested that EDC sponsor a mock tail - EDCs - extremely drinkable cocktail sangria. The event is May 20th. Mr. Furhman said this was a great idea and suggested that the Commission budget now \$200 for related expenses.

Mr. Furhman moved to spend up to \$200 for the EDCs participation in Sip and Stroll, seconded by Ms. DiTullio and passed unanimously.

EDC Sponsored Activities I. Restaurant Week/weekend

Mr. Kiviat has been working on this so it will be tabled until next meeting.

Adopt A Spot

Discussed under the Earth Day celebration.

NEW BUSINESS

New and Prospective Businesses

Mr. Furhman said the golf simulator will be opening soon and the barber shop has chosen a different location due to issues with the property owner. Mr. Kloos said he spoke with someone who was interested in opening a dance studio.

There was some discussion about having an anniversary event at businesses that have been open for a while.

Approve Minutes of January 31, 2023 & February 16, 2023

*Mr. Werner moved to approve the minutes of January 31 and February 16, 2023, seconded by Mr. Furhman and passed unanimously.
Aye: Werner, DiTullio, Furhman, Kloos*

Closing Public Comment

There were none.

Adjournment

*Mr. Kloos moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, seconded by Mr. Werner and passed unanimously.
Aye: Werner, DiTullio, Furhman, Kloos*

Minutes recorded by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen R. Badda". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Recording Secretary

Received by email on 04/19/2023 @ 10:11 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield