

Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes of **December 8, 2015**

Attendance: Andre Benoit, Scott Blinkhorn, Neil Cook, Geoffrey Cooper, Ulric Deojay, Cindy Donall, Andrew Hadfield, Ross Farrugia. **Absent:** Judy Andrade.

Staff present – Russell Gray and Patricia Ball

Also present – James Filice.

Audience of Citizens: No Comment.

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Geoffrey Cooper at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: A. Hadfield made a motion, seconded by A. Benoit to accept as written the 10/13/2015 regular meeting minutes. All voted in favor of the motion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. I-Park Wetlands Issue – Lot #16: First Selectman Russell Gray informed the commission there are three maps detailing wetlands associated with Lot #16. After discussion with the town's attorney of the three different reports, the town will go with the report issued by the town wetland agent, Joseph Theroux. The possibility that Lot #16 would now be considered worthless due to the amount of wetlands was discussed. S. Blinkhorn asked the committee their thoughts on the possibility of filling in the lot, so that it would be buildable and a future revenue generator rather than empty land.

b. Lot 30AA and Lot IP16 – Renewable Ventures, LLC Proposal to Lease: R. Gray informed the members a deposit from Renewable Ventures was made to ReEnergy, no other information is available at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Motion on acceptance of 2016 meeting schedule: A. Benoit made a motion, seconded by U. Deojay to accept the 2016 meeting schedule. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Community Center / 50 Main Street Repairs: As a matter of record for the committee, R. Gray informed the members of the various repair work being completed at the Robert P. Jordan Community Center located at 50 Main Street, Sterling, stating it is a work in progress. The sheetrock is in the process of being put back up and the walls are completely insulated. Work should be wrapping up soon. G. Cooper asked about the future plans regarding the building. P. Ball will provide a copy of the property appraisal at the next meeting to aid in the discussion.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

a. Additions/Deletions to the Sterling Industrial Park Covenants: All members of the Economic Development Commission were given, as recorded, a copy of the Sterling Industrial Park Covenants. This will also be uploaded on the town website.

b. Mission of the Commission: C. Donall would like to review the goal and mission of the Economic Development Commission to be sure the interest of the Town's development is best being served. C. Donall questioned the reasoning behind the cancellation of meetings due to lack of agenda items and if maybe more needs to be accomplished outside the Industrial Park focus. U. Deojay and S. Blinkhorn also mentioned the ideas of development on other town owned property, Route 14, and what the commission may need or be able to help with, in that possible development. P. Ball will obtain a copy of the commission mission for discussion at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Donall, seconded by N. Cook to adjourn at 7:30 pm. All voted in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted by,

Patricia Ball
Economic Development Coordinator, Sterling