



## TOWN OF THOMPSON

Economic Development  
Commission

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### Economic Development Commission Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Via Zoom 6:30pm

#### View the Zoom Recording

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ZrElG6a39XWMp5B3rYa7o26v6EnWMg08E4hXBC0i2XCDG4IErzxj7sO-6Uri1mTx.0QPNnLeRnMcKPZTD?startTime=1710973826000>

Passcode: b?2+YOX8

**Members attending:** B. Yacino – Chair, D. Bennett, J. Hall, B. Loffredo, C. Obert

**Others attending:** Tyra Penn-Gesek (Director of Planning & Development), Lynn Looby (Recording Secretary)

- I. Call to Order 6:30pm by B. Yacino. The recording was started by T. Penn-Gesek.
- II. Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2024 meeting  
**J. Hall motioned to approve the minutes as presented, B. Loffredo seconded the motion**  
**Motion passes unanimously. at time stamp 0:22**
- III. Reports – at time stamp 0:50
  1. Chairman – B. Yacino
    - Visited Sweet Jane's Thrift Shop on Thompson Road. Introduction on behalf of EDC and TBA; Owner noted business is going well
  2. Treasurer – J. Hall
    - Available budget \$22,696.43 (8.0%)
- IV. Update on businesses in Thompson – at time stamp 3:31
  1. New business Adoption of Trade Name
    - 2024-3 – Gregg Corso Consulting LLC; DBA Riselyte, 36 Labonte Road
  2. TBA Membership – There are 75 businesses in membership; in the process of drafting formal bylaws
- V. Citizen's comments pertaining to agenda items – no citizens comments
- VI. Old Business at time stamp 8:10
  1. Open slot for EDC alternate – any suggestions let B. Yacino know
- VII. New Business at time stamp 26:30
  1. Commission went into executive session for the Marketing RFP interviews  
**B. Yacino motioned to begin the executive session; C. Obert seconded the motion**  
**Motion passes unanimously**  
**Recording resumed – Commission Executive Session ended**
- VIII. Progress Reports at time stamp 8:34
  1. Grant applications / updates – Tyra
    - Train Wreck Park (2) – Budget overrun on first grant of \$1,359. Initial grant submission was assuming cost of site work/engineering and additional site work and engineering services were needed; T. Penn-Gesek is proposing Trails Committee pay and possibly EDC
    - CIF Grant – \$3.88 Million – Thompson was not a recipient of funds; T. Penn-Gesek has scheduled a phone call to get feedback; she will review the executive summary and apply again

- Kubota Foundation – partnering with Eastern Connecticut Conservation District (ECCD) to prepare application for additional 65 Main funding; specific area of the plan has been identified; submitted by mid-April; finalists chosen by end of June; Opened up for public voting – 20 awards (10 regions – 1<sup>st</sup> place \$50,000 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$10,000)
  - Center for Community Progress – reaching out to TEEG to discuss partnership on application/ project for additional 65 Main funding; creative space project; 3 municipalities will be awarded \$10,000/each; T. Penn-Gesek will be attending a webinar to learn more
2. Upcoming events at time stamp 24:35
    - Natchaug Epic – March 24 – reconnaissance ride on March 23
    - TMHS Classic Car Cruise – April 27
    - Maker Fair – May 4
    - Summer Concert Series – June 29, July 13, July 27, August 3
    - Town Yard Sale – July 27
    - Community Day – October 5
  3. Marketing / revitalization of downtown core: (including 65 Main) at time stamp 28:43
    - Next Public Workshop is on March 27, 2024 at the Library (new location) from 6-8pm
- IX. Comments by Commission members / next agenda
- No comments
- X. Next meeting: April 17, 2024 6:30pm
- XI. Adjourn – 8:26pm by B. Yacino

Also available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awZNHJ1ozxs>

Submitted 3/25/24

Lynn S. Looby

Recording Secretary

\*\*These minutes have not yet been approved by the Economic Development Commission. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.