



CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

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CENTRAL CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE MEETING MINUTES Noon; Monday; June 14, 2010; CCRPA Offices, Suite 304; 225 N. Main Street, Bristol, CT

1. Call to order, introductions; determination of quorum (representatives from 4 different municipalities) the meeting was called to order at approximately 12:05 PM with the following members in attendance except as noted:

- a. Municipality Representatives

Berlin Jim Mahoney - Econ. Dev - AB
Bristol Art Ward - Mayor - AB
Jonathan Rosenthal (Chair) - Ec. Dev.
Mike Nicastro - Chamber (com. org's.) -
(represented by Cindy Scoville)
Burlington Neil Beup - Ec. Dev. - AB
Mike Scheidel - Chamber - AB

New Britain Tim Stewart (V. Chair) - AB
Bill Millerick - Chamber - AB
Steven Schiller - Ec. Dev.
Plainville - Robert E. Lee - Manager - AB
Mark DeVoe - Ec. Dev.
Plymouth - Khara Dodds - Ec. Dev.
Southington - Louis Perillo - Ec. Dev.

- b. Non-municipal Representatives

Angelo D'Alfonso - CWP (Un/underemployed) - AB
Bruce Lydem (Organized Labor) - AB
Jack Driscoll (Finance) - AB
Janet Serra - NW CT CVB (tourism/women) - AB
John O'Toole - Northeast Utilities (utilities) - AB
John Tricarico - CCRPA Paratransit (Disabilities)
Lynn Abrahamson - Bristol/Burlington Public Health - AB
District (Health)

Peggy Sokol - Bristol Senior Center (aged/women) - AB
Rosita Forte-Dobson - CT Small Business Center
(Professionals/women/minorities)
Tom Lorenzetti - CCSU ITBD - AB
Victor Mitchell - Tunxis CC - AB
Sarah Kowaleski - Urban Oaks (Agricultural) - AB
CERC - N.A

Also present were Carl Stephani, Francis Pickering, Ethan Abeles, and Krystal Oldread, CCRPA Staff.

2. Approval of March 8, 2010, minutes
MOTION: Louis Perillo moved approval as presented; seconded Mark DeVoe; passed unanimously.

3. CEDS

Carl Stephani reported on the Thursday June 10th meeting with Peter Simmons of DECD regarding the two letters sent out by the Commissioner relating to the establishment of Economic Development Districts (EDDs) and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process. DECD is seeking to have all areas of the state covered by a CEDS and the statutes limit the number of EDDs to 8. By simple math that would require approximately 20 towns in each EDD. The DECD letters indicated that DECD was inclined to require at least 20 towns in any EDD and that no towns participate in more than one CEDS. If those rules hold, there would be no way for the Central Connecticut Region's CEDS area to be recognized as an EDD. If the area is not recognized as an EDD, it would not qualify for US EDA funding; although it is not clear whether there would be any federal funding for EDDs, or whether all towns in an EDD would qualify for EDA infrastructure project support. Those two questions have been asked of the Philadelphia EDA office. At the DECD meeting the CCM, COST, CARPO and DECD all agreed to participate in a committee to review the two CEDS letters and to jointly develop a refined set of guidelines for transitioning from the current situation to something that would cover the entire state with EDDs; and to prepare a recommendation for the Commissioner in approximately 90 days. Mr. Stephani advised the Committee that he has ceased all work on the Central Connecticut CEDS pending the results of that Committee's work and the concurrence of the Commissioner. Ultimately, if the Region is required to become combined with other towns to meet the minimal requirements for an EDD, we will want to have our funding available to use to prepare the CEDS for the entire new EDD region. Mr. Stephani advised that his advocacy at the DECD meeting was to allow the existing 8 CEDS regions to become the initial EDD regions, and to have a transition plan over the next several years for these regions to expand to cover the entire state. The Committee members concurred with that approach.

4. Other matters - none raised.
5. Adjournment was declared at approximately 1 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Stephani