



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
66 FRANKLIN STREET
NORWICH, CT 06360
860.887.6964
▶askncdc.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom and at Foundry 66
March 25, 2021

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Buckley called the meeting to order at 8:05 am and established a quorum.

Present: Robert Buckley, Robert Staley, Chris LaRose, John Salomone, Kathy LaCombe, Mayor Peter Nystrom, Stacy Gould, Rebecca Alberts, Swarnjit Singh, Jason Jones, Michael Rauh, Chris Jewell and Mark Bettencourt. **Absent:** Frank Manfredi, Mark Block and Mary Riley. **Other Attendees:** Fawn Walker, Devin Schledit, Suki Lagrito and Lee Ann D'Ambrosio. **Guests:** Claire Bessette.

2. The Board reviewed the minutes of the February 25, 2021 meeting.

MOTION #1: Mayor Peter Nystrom made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 25, 2021 Board meeting as presented. Mark Bettencourt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report: Robert Staley presented the monthly financials. Mr. Staley discussed the future of the Mercantile Building. Mr. Buckley reported that the Tribe reached out to Mark Block and requested a meeting to discuss the Mercantile Building.

4. Robert Buckley requested a motion to move the meeting into Executive Session.

MOTION #2: Rebecca Alberts made a motion to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Peter Nystrom and the motion carried unanimously at 8:15 am.

MOTION #3: Stacy Gould made a motion to exit the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mark Bettencourt and the motion carried unanimously at 8:27 am.

5. NCDC Update: Fawn Walker provided an update on current projects including Phase 3 at Ponemah Mill, and the award ceremony of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association, which presented an award to the City of Norwich for the Downtown Bond Program. Jason Vincent had submitted the application to CCAPA for the award.

6. Foundry 66 Update: Jason Jones stepped in for Mary Riley and gave a quick update on Foundry 66.

7. Global City Norwich Update: Suki Lagrito gave an update on the Working Lab, one of the initiatives of Global City Norwich as well as the Faces/Places/Spaces. She also discussed an upcoming art project in conjunction with the Norwich Free Academy to take place in Downtown Norwich. Suki also reminded the committee that the Norwich Police Department has a community meeting at Foundry 66 every Tuesday evening.
8. Robert Buckley requested a motion to enter into Executive Session for the second time.
9. **MOTION #4:** Stacy Gould made a motion to enter Executive Session for a second time. Swarnjit Singh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 8:38 am.
10. Robert Buckley requested a motion to exit the second Executive Session.
11. **MOTION #5:** Mark Bettencourt made a motion to exit the second Executive Session. Jason Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 8:44 am.
12. New Business: Swarnjit Singh reported that a new Sikh Cultural Center opened up near Backus Hospital in Norwich.

Mayor Peter Nystrom reported that a recent food drive fundraising effort raised enough money to have two more food drives in memory of Jason Vincent. One food drive will take place on April 28 beginning at 4:00 pm and the second food drive will take place on May 28 also at 4:00 pm.

13. Old Business: Mr. Buckley reported that he will have more information to share at the next Board meeting in order for the Board to vote on selling the old NCDC trailer. It was originally purchased from Thayer's Marine.

Jason Jones requested a delay in voting on the Draft NCDC Employee Handbook until the next meeting on April 22, 2021.

MOTION #6: Mark Bettencourt made a motion to delay voting on the draft NCDC employee handbook until the April Board meeting. Jason Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

14. Robert Buckley requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION #7: Mark Bettencourt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 am. Stacy Gould seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Lee Ann D'Ambrosio
Executive Assistant