



## NCDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Meeting Minutes December 9, 2021

#### Via Zoom and at Foundry 66

#### MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Buckley called the meeting to order at 8:06 am. A quorum was established.

**Present:** Robert Buckley, Chris Jewell, Robert Staley, John Salomone, Kathy LaCombe, Jason Jones, Chris LaRose, Rebecca Alberts, Michael Rauh, Stacy Gould, Mayor Peter Nystrom, and Frank Manfredi. **Absent:** Swarnjit Singh and JP Mereen. **Other Attendees:** Kevin Brown, Lee Ann D'Ambrosio, Mary Riley and Devin Schleidt.

Mr. Buckley opened the meeting and established a quorum. He said that this meeting would be devoted to discussing and reviewing the candidates selected for the four board seats opening up at the end of the year. He asked Becca Alberts to present the candidates.

Ms. Alberts announced that she and Frank Manfredi interviewed and met with the candidates being considered for the Board beginning in January. Ms. Alberts met with Lynn Perry, an attorney very interested in serving. She is a very good negotiator but doesn't have any real estate experience. She recommended Ms. Perry to be an alternate or serve on an advisory committee.

Ms. Alberts also met with Molly Bruno, a real estate agent and former member of Foundry 66. Her current schedule does not allow her time to serve or attend the Board meetings on Thursday mornings. She is very interested in serving on an advisory committee. Ms. Alberts reported that Mr. Manfredi met with the Rev. Ben Green, Pastor at the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and supervisor at the Waterford Country School. He is not a businessperson but knows a lot of people in the community and has important connections as well. He is interested in serving. She also reported that a lot of people have come forward and are interested in serving on the NCDC Board.

Other interested candidates include Ella Myles, a former City Council member who sent her resume yesterday to Kevin Brown. Mr. Brown reported that Brian Hayes, a member of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe is interested in serving but we received his information too late to be considered the upcoming term. We will keep him as a potential candidate for the next time.

The other candidates that were approached and interviewed include Angelina Gardner, owner of Uncle D's Blazin BBQ, John Mancini, Senior Vice President at Eastern CT Savings Bank and John Harris, a member of the Mohegan Tribe.

The Board discussed the current slate of nominees to the Board. They discussed who the third municipal Board member would be. Now that Swarnjit Singh is on the City Council there was a question as to whether or not he would be able to serve on the NCDC Board.

Michael Rauh made a motion to vote on the slate of nominees: John G. Harris, Rev. Benjamin Green, John Mancini, and Angelina Gardener. Kathy LaCombe seconded the motion. Kevin Brown asked about modifying the motion to include alternates to the Board. Mr. Rauh said they would vote on the candidates and alternates separately.

2. **MOTION #1:** Becka Alberts made a motion to accept Angelina Gardener as a new member of the NCDC Board of Directors. Frank Manfredi seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **MOTION #2:** Becka Alberts made a motion to accept John Mancini as a new member of the NCDC Board of Directors. Frank Manfredi seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

4. **MOTION #3:** Becka Alberts made a motion to accept John Harris as a new member of the NCDC Board of Directors. Michael Rauh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

5. **MOTION #4:** Becka Alberts made a motion to accept Reverend Benjamin Green as a new member of the NCDC Board of Directors. Frank Manfredi seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Becka Alberts reported that she was not able to connect with Andrew Sawyer to see if he would be interested in serving on the NCDC Board of Directors.

6. **MOTION #5:** Mayor Nystrom made a motion to approach Lynn Perry as an alternate to the NCDC Board of Directors. Michael Rauh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

7. **MOTION #6:** Bob Staley made a motion to approach Brian Hayes as an alternate to the NCDC Board of Directors. Becka Alberts seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Robert Buckley reminded the Board that they still have to vote on a new slate of officers for the Board. Becka Alberts volunteered to serve as Board Chair. Mr. Buckley asked Bob Staley if he would continue as Board Secretary, and he answered in the affirmative. Mr. Buckley asked Chris Jewell if he would continue to serve as Board Treasurer. Mr. Buckley asked Jason Jones if he would consider serving as Vice Chair. Mr. Jones said he would consider the offer and asked to discuss it at a later time.

Mr. Buckley then asked Chris Jewell if he would be willing to be added as a second signer on the organization's checking account. Mr. Jewell answered he would be willing.

Stacy Gould made a motion to approve the new NCDC slate of officers. Mr. Rauh asked if the election of officers is supposed to take place at the annual meeting and not during a regular meeting. Mr. Rauh noted that the Bylaws specifically state the election of officers at the December annual meeting. Because the annual meeting was postponed until January, Kathy LaCombe suggested that the slate of officers be confirmed at the meeting in January. The Board discussed and agreed to Kathy's suggestion. The current Board members would continue to serve until the January meeting which would be a combination regular and annual meeting.

8. **MOTION #7:** Kevin Brown made a motion to postpone the annual meeting by one month until January 2022. Becka Alberts seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Robert Buckley said the Board needed to make one more motion, to officially approve Becka Alberts and Chris Jewell as the new signers to NCDC's checking account.

9. **MOTION #8:** Michael Rauh made a motion to approve Becka Alberts and Chris Jewell as the new signers on NCDC's checking account. Kathy LaCombe seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Since there was no Board meeting in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday and the next Board meeting would be January 27, 2022, Kevin Brown asked if the Executive Committee could approve the November and December financials at their next meeting on January 13, 2022.

10. **MOTION #9:** Frank Manfredi made a motion for the current officers of the Executive Committee review and approve NCDC's November and December financials before the annual meeting on January 27, 2022. Michael Rauh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Robert Buckley read a statement as the outgoing Chairman of the NCDC Board of Directors. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the past six years. The Board of Directors in turn thanked Bob for his service.

11. **MOTION #10:** Bob Staley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael Rauh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 8:54 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Lee Ann D'Ambrosio  
Executive Assistant