



NCDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes April 28, 2022

Via Zoom and at Foundry 66

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** Chairwoman Rebecca Alberts called the meeting to order at 8:04 am. A quorum was established.

Present: Rebecca Alberts, Chris Jewell, Robert Staley, Chris LaRose, JP Mereen, Stacy Gould, Jason Jones, Angy Gardner, Mayor Peter Nystrom, John Mancini, Swarnjit Singh, Lynn Perry, John Harris, Bryan Hayes, and Rev. Green. **Absent:** John Salomone. **Other Attendees:** Kevin Brown, Devin Schleidt, Suki Lagrito and Mark Block. **Guests:** Melinda Wilson, Scott Lessard and Claire Bessette.

Ms. Alberts called the meeting to order at 8:04 am and established a quorum.

2. Chairwoman Rebecca Alberts asked the members to review the minutes from the March 24, 2022 Board meeting. If there were no changes, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

MOTION #1: Swarnjit Singh made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2022 Board Meeting as presented. JP Mereen seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **President's Report:** Kevin Brown gave an update on the main Priorities of Work for May. He spoke about the revised amendment to the building lease and would discuss the CAM issues during Executive Session. Mr. Brown gave an update on the NRP and said there are currently 30 potential applications with 4 complete. The closing date for submitting applications was April 30 for the current allotment of funds. Mr. Brown reported that as part of the NRP that he was also partnering with the Southeastern Cultural Coalition to bring public art in some communities. He said that \$25,000 from the Cultural Coalition would be directed to NCDC for NRP grantees for some public art – the Vanilla Box with Sprinkles.

Mr. Brown gave a quick update on the Business Park North project reporting that the TIGER grant had been submitted including a letter of support from the CT DOT. Congresswoman Cathy Osten was a big help. He discussed potential future tenants in the Business Park North; it will have space for 3 industrial tenants.

Mr. Brown briefly discussed the current cannabis lottery in Connecticut for growers, micro-growers, and retail operations. As of today, the State received 1,900 applications for growers and 711 applications for micro-growers. Currently, the deadline for a provisional license is May 3. Permanent licenses will come in the Fall. At the moment, State regulations are only allowing one retail establishment in Norwich. Mayor Nystrom reported on the zoning requirements in Norwich and said they are doing everything they can.

Mr. Brown summarized the other top priorities currently being worked on including, NCDC's budget for fiscal year 2022-2023; the Reid & Hughes Building; the 77-91 Main Street Development; Solar Seal; the Mercantile Building – Mark Block has been in touch with the Tribal Council regarding the lease which ends in 2024.

4. **Global City Norwich Report:** Kevin Brown gave a quick update on the Global City Norwich program. He reported that there have been several international flag raisings, and more were to come. He also noted the upcoming festivals and said that he had applied for funds through Congressman Courtney's office (earmarks) for the Broadway Improvement Project. He thanked Scott Lessard for his help getting the estimates for the project.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Chris Jewell gave the treasurer's report. He reported that NCDC is in a good spot financially and currently overall under budget.

Chairwoman Rebecca Alberts asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION #2: Mayor Nystrom made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Bob Staley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Rebecca Alberts requested a motion to enter into Executive Session.

MOTION #3: Stacy Gould made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Chris Jewell seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 9:02 am.

Chairwoman Rebecca Alberts asked for motion to exit Executive Session.

MOTION #4: Stacy Gould made a motion to exit Executive Session. JP Mereen seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 9:21 am. No votes were taken.

7. Ms. Alberts asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION #5: Chris Jewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Nystrom seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously at 9:23 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Lee Ann D'Ambrosio
Executive Assistant