

Essex Economic Development Commission (EDC) Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2022

Online via Microsoft Teams

Hybrid at 81 Main Street, Essex Junction

Attendees

Chair Brian Shelden, Vice Chair Jeff Benjamin, Ms Ta-Tanisha Reddita

Staff Owiso Makuku, Darren Schibler, Robin Pierce, Sharon Kelly, Jean O'Sullivan

Partners Sam Andersen GBIC, Whitney Coombs GBIC

Public Ken Signorello

Call to Order

Ms Reddita had technical difficulties. The meeting started informally – without the ability to vote on things – at 8:05, but was not officially called to order until 8:26 when Ms Reddita called in.

Public To Be Heard

None

Minutes

...were skipped due to lack of a quorum.

Welcome Jean O'Sullivan

The Town has filled the part-time Economic Development staff position with Jean O'Sullivan. The commission welcomes Ms. O'Sullivan.

Updates from Partners and Staff

- Updates by partners & staff occurred.
- No motions were made.

Essex Extended School Program

The member of the public who called for this discussion could not attend. This discussion was postponed.

Membership / Separation

The commission held an informal discussion on how to move forward given the expected City of Essex Junction, that current membership is 2 Essex Junction and 1 Town After Separation, and our lack of applicants

The commission's consensus was to recommend to the Selectboard that owners of Essex-based businesses – even if non-Essex residents – be accepted as members of the commission

Staff agreed to draft a proposal for submission to the Selectboard so the Commission could vote on during its next meeting.

Next meeting

The commission decided to hold a work session to determine next steps and our goals for 2022 at our normal 3rd Tuesday time slot of January

Adornment

Chair Shelden asked for a motion to adjourn at approximately 9:15 am. Vice-Chair Benjamin moved and the motion was seconded by Ms Reddita, passed 3-0.

Submitted by Chair Brian Shelden January 15, 2022