



Town of Ridgefield
Economic Development Commission
400 Main Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877

Arnold Light
Chairman

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Office

Paul Levine
Robert DeFalco
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Rudy Marconi,
First Selectman
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Approved Meeting Minutes
Economic Development Commission
March 7, 2016, 7:00 PM
Small Conference Room

Present: Arnold Light, Paul Levine, Alexander Karsanidi, John Devine,

Guests: Bob DeFalco, John Collins

Arnold Light called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Arnold Light recorded the minutes

1. Announcements

- a) Next EDC Meeting April 4, 2016
- b) February 1, Minutes approval
Arnold motioned, Paul seconded, approved.
- c) John Devine has been approved by the BOS and has been sworn in and is now a full member of the EDC.

2. Project Progress Reports

- a. Ridgefield Downtown Action Committee: First meeting was held on Monday February 29 in the Library. There were about 45 attendees including, merchants, landlords, P&Z, EDC, media and general public. Summaries of the two consulting projects were presented and then the consultants solicited comments. It was agreed that there should be follow up by a committee of attendees to take action. Rudy Marconi said his office would forward dates to those in attendance and then we would select the best date and hold an action-oriented meeting.

b. Joanne Hudson, Director of the Ridgefield Independent Film Festival made a report to the Commission. She reported that there were 72 films entered from 23 countries. Ticket packages will range from \$50 to \$225 and will go on sale shortly via the RIFF website. She is still looking for sponsors and PR. Paul Levine said he would forward her information on who to contact in Westchester and other media outlets as he has received several calls on the EDC phone number from various media sources looking for news from Ridgefield.

3. Arnold Light reported on his meeting with Bob Hebert, from the Board of Selectmen. Bob is very much in favor of working closely with the EDC to help improve our mission and status as a commission. To that end he and Arnold Light will work on a new vision statement to present to the Board of Selectmen. He has also recommended two people to fill the remaining vacant spots on the EDC. One of them is John Collins who is attending tonight's meeting and the other is John Mitchell.

4. The EDC interviewed Robert DeFalco and John Collins for the positions of Commissioners on the EDC and found both of them to be acceptable. Robert will go before the BOS this coming Wednesday, and John Collins is scheduled to meet with Rudy Marconi this Thursday and go before the BOS on March 30th.

7. We briefly discussed the outcome of the Schulmberger Committee Report and will await further input from the Committee which has some important new developments to discuss.

8. The EDC has been invited to the table to part of the Branchville TOD and we still seek a volunteer.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM