ROCHESTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES - OCTOBER 9, 2014

4:00 P.M. – CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

31 WAKEFIELD STREET, ROCHESTER, NH

MEMBERS PRESENT - MEMBERS ABSENT -

Rick Lundborn, Chairman Timothy Cremmen

John Larochelle, Co-Chairman

Jonathan Shapleigh

Susan DeRoy

Ron Poulin

Kevin Ryan

Mark Hourihane

Janet Davis, Secretary

Karen Pollard, CEcD, EDP

Jennifer Marsh, E.D. Specialist

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE - None

A. CALL TO ORDER –Chairman Lundborn called the meeting to order at

4:04 PM. Attendance was taken.

B. APPROVAL – August 14, 2014 Regular Minutes –

Motion made by Mark Hourihane, second by Kevin Ryan to approve the

regular minutes of the August 14, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.

C. PROJECT UPDATES -

~ Branding & PR -

Mayor T.J. Jean plans to contact an individual to become involved with this

project. Discussion was held on using social media to promote some of the

City’s most popular areas. (A resident’s letter that was mailed to REDC

members was discussed)

~ Spaulding Transportation Coalition – Next meeting will be held November 5,

2014 at 5:30 PM – Frisbie Memorial Education Center.

~ Rochester Fairgrounds Discussion - Chairman Lundborn provided a map

of the fairgrounds and a discussion was held on the public’s perception of the

Rochester Fair, and what changes would benefit the community. The general

opinion of the Commission is that Rick should contact a member of the Fair

board and invite him/her to attend an REDC meeting to discuss ideas. Motion

made by Mark Hourihane, second by Susan DeRoy to ask for a meeting with

the location to be determined. Motion carried.

~Restaurant Attraction Letters - All present agreed that the letter was well done.

E.D. Specialist Jennifer Marsh and board member Ron Poulin will be visiting a

Business out of the area to see if they would be willing to open a bakery in

Rochester.

D. PROGRAM UPDATES –

~ Incentives Discussion - Karen Pollard provided a list of incentives that had been prepared in 2011. Discussion held and an updated list will be sent to all

Commissioners.

1. Rochester JOB Loan Program - Low interest loans for a small business that

is located in Rochester. This is a HUD based program - $70,000 is available,

and the loan amount is usually in the $30,000 range. Some equity is required

from the owner. This is gap financing. Various other options are available.

A business plan is required in order to qualify. Jennifer Marsh will be the

point person.

1. Downtown Sign & Façade Grant Program - $1000 grant is available for

improvements. An applicant must fill in a form and meet with REDC. This

grant can be applied to anything on the exterior.

1. Rochester 79e Downtown Revitalization Tax Incentive - This is a tax abatement program allowed in NH. Buildings that qualify are in the Historic

and downtown districts. The intent is to encourage investment in downtown

buildings to revitalize that area.

1. Entrepreneurial Scholarship Program –there are still some funds available which could be used for a business owner or staff to take education programs

that will enhance their business. Some money is used for training on

merchandising in order to make window displays attractive.

A discussion was held on various other programs that are available.

E. OTHER BUSINESS – None

F. NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None required

G. ADJOURN - Motion made at 6:04 PM by John Larochelle to adjourn, second

by Ron Poulin – Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2014 AT 4:00 PM –

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 31 WAKEFIELD STREET, ROCHESTER, NH