

# MINUTES

## NORTH HAVEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Commission held electronically on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

### **Members Present:**

Walter Mann, Michael Freda, Stephen Fontana, Deb Moore, Robert Nielsen, Christine Reardon; Alan Sturtz

### **Also Present:**

Valerie Goodkin, Assistant to First Selectman  
Ray Andrewsen, Executive Director, Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Mann called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and welcomed the Commission members. Mr. Mann asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 24, 2023. Christine Reardon motioned with a second by Robert Nielsen for the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the EDC held on April 24, 2023.

**VOTE: Fontana – yes; Freda – yes; Mann – yes; Nielsen – yes; Reardon – yes; Deb Moore-abstain; Alan Sturtz - abstain**

Chairman Mann welcomed Mr. Ray Andrewsen, Executive Director of the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce to address the group regarding an overview of the North Haven Festival & Business Expo that took place on September 30, 2023 on the North Haven green.

He updated the Commission on the event and explained that even though the event was planned without a rain date, due to the weather, the decision was made to postpone the event to the following Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The weather on the 30<sup>th</sup> was also not ideal and started out raining and then later cleared up. Overall, the Chamber was pleased with the event and turnout. There were approximately 55 booths and they had a crowd count of approximately 500 people. The showmobile could not be opened due to the rain, so the entertainment that was planned did not take place and the classic cars also were not able to participate because of the wet ground. They have ideas for next year and certainly intend on growing the event and making it better. They also would like to make it more inclusive and accessible for the Town's various civic organizations. They also will factor in a rain date. Several members

of the Commission, Walt Mann, Chris Reardon and Robert Nielsen attended the event along with Valerie Goodkin and they each shared comments about their experience. Mr. Mann thanked Mr. Andrewsen.

Mr. Freda provided his update of various economic development throughout the Town and discussion followed.

Chairman Mann suggested the Commission give some thought to a spring EDC Breakfast.

With no further business before the Commission Mr. Fontana motioned with a second from Ms. Moore to adjourn at 9:21 am.

**VOTE: All in favor**