

DRAFT
**MEETING MINUTES OF THE PORTSMOUTH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (EDC)**

January 6, 2023 7:30 AM

Members Present: Philip Cohen; Chair, Alan Gold; Vice Chair, Bob Marchewka, Tom Watson, Andrew Ward, Anne Weidman, Everett Eaton, Jacob Lehoux, Assistant Mayor; JoAnna Kelley; City Councilor; Vince Lombardi, Ben VanCamp,
Absent: Sarah Lachance, Asst. City Manager for Economic Development; Sean Clancy
City Staff: City Manager; Karen Conard

Chairman Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM

Minutes - Approval of draft meeting minutes of December 2, 2022 – Motion made by *Commissioner Marchewka* seconded by *Commissioner Weidman*. Motion to approve draft minutes passed unanimously.

Working Group Updates:

Business Retention and Expansion Survey – BR&E Survey has been posted to the city website and a press release was sent out just after the New Year holiday.

Land Use Liaison – The Land Use Committee has not met since last meeting. Next LUC meeting is scheduled for February 2023.

City Council Update: *Councilor Lombardi and Asst. Mayor Kelly*

Highlights included Fire and Building Codes have been amended to align with State of NH codes. The CIP process for 2024-2029 has begun. The City Council has scheduled a retreat to revisit current city council goals.

Chamber Update: *Chamber President Van Camp*

The Chamber Collaborative has begun a strategic planning process which is expected to take six months to complete. Included in this effort is a review of the dormant non-profit mechanism to assess future use etc.

****SAVE** the date for Legislative Reception with our Seacoast legislators Monday January 30th

Portsmouth Housing Authority Presentation - *Executive Director, Craig Welch*

Craig presented an overview of the recently completed workforce housing project Ruth Lewin Griffin Place including breakdown of tenants to demonstrate the diversity of workforce tenants.

Craig outlined the PHA and PHAD missions and provided an updated vision of the next project on their horizon. The Sherburne School property which is owned by the City of Portsmouth and currently houses the Robert J. Lister Academy. The conversations for development or in the very early stages. A robust questions and answer period followed. (see video for my information)

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by *Councilor Lombardi*, seconded by *Assistant Mayor Kelly* Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday February 3, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Sean Clancy
Assistant City Manager for Economic Development