

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

Enterprise Zone Council

Minutes of Meeting of June 24, 2014

Commerce RI: Narragansett Room

315 Iron Horse Way, Suite 101

Providence, RI 02908

In attendance:

COUNCIL AFFILIATION

D. Varin Vice Chairman

R. Caniglia Stand Corporation

A. Gibbs Commerce RI

M. Wood RI League of Cities & Towns

OTHER AFFILIATION

V. Barros, Jr. Commerce RI

M. Godin ED Foundation of RI

L. DiBoni City of Cranston

W. Clark Town of Portsmouth

J.R Pagliarini Commerce RI

Jim Moran City of East Providence

At 10:05 Mr. Varin called the meeting of the Rhode Island Enterprise Zone Council to order and noted that there was a quorum present.

The first item of business before the Council was the Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2014.

Mr. Varin asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Gibbs made a motion; the motion was seconded by Mr. Wood.

There being no further discussion, all voted in favor and the motion was approved.

The next item of business before the Council was the 2014 Recommendation for Membership.

Mr. Barros stated that there was one (1) business being recommended for 2014 EZ membership and that business' membership application was reviewed by the local municipality and staff for completeness and accuracy; as a result, staff recommended approval.

Mr. Varin asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. Mr. Caniglia made a motion; the motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs.

There being no further discussion, all voted in favor and the motion was approved.

The next item of business before the Council was an update on 2014

EZ Related Legislation.

Mr. Barros provided the Council with an update on all three (3) EZ related bills including companion bills.

He stated that the only bill that passed was House bill 7210 and its companion bill Senate bill 2343 which added block group 2 of U.S. census tract 401.01 in the town of Portsmouth to the Portsmouth/Tiverton EZ.

Mr. Clark added that this was a corrective action. That block group was mistakenly dropped from the zone during an earlier re-designation of the zone.

Mr. Paglairini added that the governor had signed the Portsmouth bill into law the day prior.

The next order of business before the Council was a review of the newly designed GIS Maps

Mr. Barros provided an overview of the GIS maps of each individual EZ and credited their design and creation to the efforts of Christina Delage Baza, GISP, a GIS Specialist II, from the Division of Planning.

Mr. Moran started a discussion about the problems brought about by the shifting EZ boundaries caused by changing census tract

alignments resulting from the 2010 census.

Ms. Godin asked about the proposed “micro-zones” legislation.

Mr. Paglairini replied that they had very good hearings and were well received in both chambers, at the end of the session the legislators asked for an economic analysis from the office of management and budget which produced a worst case scenario and concluded that if every site was built-out in all the targeted communities that it would cost the state \$40 million. What their analysis failed to factor in was that most of the sites are currently vacant or abandoned and not on the tax rolls therefore generating no revenue for the state or the individual municipalities where they reside.

He had copies of the fiscal note/economic analysis made and distributed to all in attendance.

The next order of business before the Council was an item under Old Business

Mr. Barros stated that he had received all of the town resolutions in support of the zone re-designations that were heard and approved subject to submittal of the resolutions.

Mr. Varin suggested that the Council make a motion that the re-designation approval process is complete with the submittal of the

resolutions from the town of Bristol, Warren and West Warwick.

Mr. Wood made a motion; the motion was seconded by Ms. Gibbs.

There being no further discussion, all voted in favor and the motion was approved

The next order of business before the Council was New Business.

Mr. Varin asked if there was any other business to come before the Council.

There being none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wood made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Caniglia. All voted unanimously in favor of the motion to adjourn.