

Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee

Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 5:00 pm

Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Joseph A. Cirillo (exp. 1/13)_x_

7 Samson Lane

Middletown, RI 02842

jac@etal.uri.edu

Robert A. Connerney (exp.1/14)_x_

9 Renfrew Park

Middletown, RI, 02842

prconnerney@verizon.net

Helen F. Flynn (exp. 1/13)_x_

57 Tuckerman Ave.

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haflynn@cox.net

Liana Ferreira Fenton (exp.1/14)_x_

53 Berkeley Ave.

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Lianaff@aol.com

Tom Kowalczyk (exp. 1/13)_x_

9 Beechland Place

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Thomas.Kowalczyk@associates.dhs.gov

Robert M. Silva (exp. 1/16)___x_

1100 Aquidneck Ave.

Middletown, RI, 02842

rmsilva@silvalawgroup.com

Mike Hill (exp. 1/13) _x____

Art Weber, Town Council Rep. ex-officio_x__

Chris Semonelli, Town Council Rep. ex-officio _x_

Jody Sullivan_____

Newport County Chamber of Commerce – ex-officio

keith@newportchamber.com

Ron Wolanski, Town Planner – ex-officio__x__

rwolanski@middletownri.com

Others present:

1. Summer 2012 America's Cup & Tall Ships events.

Discussion of the upcoming events. There was discussion of state efforts, and the possibility of Middletown hosting a local event in conjunction, possibly including a clambake or hosting an information booth at each event. There was discussion of possibly working with an event planner.

2. Discuss potential MEDAC/Town role in promoting renewable energy development and conservation retrofits.

Following discussion, it was decided that coordinating a funding program for renewable energy is not an appropriate function for MEDAC or the Town.

3. Discuss status of MEDAC consultant and staffing. Discuss outreach, including MEDAC website and schedule of outreach meetings to local businesses.

Mr. Wolanski stated that there is ongoing discussion of staffing options to address economic development functions, including outreach efforts.

4. Discuss proposed modification to the town's economic

development tax incentive program to address hospitality.

Mr. Silva recused himself from the discussion, but indicated that one of his clients is planning to provide the committee with some proposed language to amend the program.

Continued to next MEDAC meeting.

5. Update on RIDLT training grant.

Mr. Wolanski updated the committee on SENEDIA project which is funded by the grant. A defence industry skills gap study is nearing completion.

6. Update on West Main/Coddington Redevelopment Master Plan.

Mr. Wolanski updated the committee on the status of the BRAC land disposition process, and completion of the master planning effort.

Respectfully submitted:

Ronald M. Wolanski

Planning Director