

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING OF Tuesday, February 19, 2008

PLACE: Operations Conference room
 Government Center
 888 Washington Blvd., Stamford, CT

ATTENDEES:

Economic Development Commission

Joel Selden, Chairman

Denis Patterson

Barry Haines

Guest

Bruce Heller

Connecticut Film Center, LLC

Economic Development Staff

Mike Freimuth

Lenora Cavaliero

City of Stamford Staff

Frank Fedeli

Chairman Joel Selden opened the meeting at 8:40 a.m. Upon motion made and seconded, the Minutes of January 15, 2008 were approved.

CT Film Center Presentation:

Bruce Heller, Managing Director delivered the 2007 industry review and the status of the CT Film Center to the Commissioners with emphasis on the 2008 outlook. His strategic goals consist of continued growth in Stamford as a film-friendly city, create an environment that would allow Stamford to maximize its tax base and establish a full-time film industry based in Stamford with permanent high-paying positions.

His discussion included the Economic Benefits that the Film Industry has brought and will continue to bring to Stamford. The industry would create manufacturing positions for the 21st century that will create opportunities in the workforce.

Heller said his company provides financial services and brokers the tax credits from the productions.

During the filming months, money is generated for Stamford through the active need for hotel use, restaurant, caterers, car rentals and other services.

Citizens Service Supervisor Frank Fedeli, Stamford's City Official who coordinates the film activity in Stamford actively works with the producers and location managers of the film industry. He was in agreement with Heller's comments, noting that a lot of money is generated in Stamford. Fedeli reported that \$100,000 was generated through fees and permits from the film industry. In addition, the excitement was apparent within the city during the film season from April to December 2007.

Stamford Film Advisory Committee:

Ct Film Center would like a Stamford Economic Development Commission member to serve on the Advisory Council. The Committee would represent sectors critical to building the film industry.

Frank Fedeli agreed to represent the City in monthly meetings on the Advisory Committee along with representatives from the business community and maybe a State representative.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.

The next regular scheduled meeting must be rescheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2008 in the Mayor's Conference room.

Respectively submitted,

Lenora Cavaliero
Office of Economic Development Staff