

**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation**

**Date:** October 19, 2010

**Time:** 4:00 pm

**Location:** WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation Boardroom

**Present:**

Lindsay Boyd, Chair

Ron Gaudet, President

Joe Byrne

Mike Mueller

Mike Robinson

Ranjana Bird

Shelley Fellows

Warden Nelson Santos

Roy Verstraete

Dave Cooke

Mayor Eddie Francis, via conference call

**Absent:**

Diane Soucie

**WEEDC staff present:**

Patrick Persichilli, Exec VP, WEEDC

Karolyn Hart, VP, WEEDC

Lee Anne Damphouse, WEEDC, Board Liaison

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**Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Lindsay Boyd, at 4:03 pm

**1.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None.

**2.0 Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Lindsay Boyd to add section 6.5 – Nominations Committee.

Moved by Eddie Francis add section 6.6 – Ontario Works.

Moved by Mike Mueller, seconded by Joe Byrne, to accept additions to the agenda.

**Carried.**

**3.0 Approval of Meeting Minutes of last Board Meeting**

Moved by Joe Byrne, seconded by Roy Verstraete, to accept minutes from August 17, 2010 board meeting.

**Carried.**

**4.0 Board Correspondence**

No new items were brought forward.

## **5.0 Board Reports and Committee Business**

### **5.1 Board Chairperson's Report**

The Chair, Lindsay Boyd, briefly discussed the September 9, 2010 Editorial Board at the Windsor Star. Lindsay Boyd also discussed the upcoming Warden's Banquet scheduled for November 19, 2010 honoring Warden Nelson Santos. Nelson Santos advised that the new county council will be there as well and it would be the ideal time for county council and board members to meet. Lindsay Boyd spoke briefly about the recent OACA event at Willistead Manor and how the attendees were impressed with the WEEDC. Lindsay also congratulated Patrick Persichilli on a recent investment to the region.

Moved by Joe Byrne to accept the Chairperson's Report as presented, seconded by Ranjana Bird.

**Carried.**

#### **5.1.1 Board Committees (Handout - WEEDC Board Org Chart)**

Lindsay Boyd discussed the structure of the WEEDC Board Org Chart and reasoning for committees that were developed, those being Governance, H.R. and Finance.

Moved by Mike Mueller that the Nominations Committee be part of the board's mandate, seconded by Joe Byrne.

**Carried.**

#### **5.1.2 President's Report**

The President, Ron Gaudet, started out by introducing the new Vice President of Community Development and Strategic Initiatives, Karolyn Hart, who's employment commenced on October 4, 2010. Ron also spoke about the Editorial Board held on September 9, 2010 and also of the stakeholder meetings that he and staff have been attending. The intention of these meetings is to bring community stakeholders together and to add value to the final regional roadmap. Key players can contribute to the input and at the final stages of the document these key players can actually "sign off" on the regional roadmap, making it an actual community document.

Moved by Dave Cooke to accept the President's Report, seconded by Roy Verstraete.

**Carried.**

### **5.2 Sector Committee Reports**

- i. **Manufacturing** – Roy Verstraete spoke about the recent manufacturing sector committee meeting held on October 4, specifically:
  - a. Bio-Auto Council
  - b. JAPIA
  - c. EMC

- ii. **Agri-Business** – Joe Byrne spoke of recent campaigns that have been positive in educating the community of the advantages of buying local (health benefits) as well as economical. Joe also spoke about the Look for Local Week that ran from August 28 – Sept 2, 2010.
  - a. Lindsay Boyd also noted that buying “local” fills a need and is very affordable. Joe Byrne agreed.

Moved by Roy Verstraete to accept the **Manufacturing** Sector Committee Report (Item 5.2.i), seconded by Mike Robinson.

**Carried.**

Moved by Joe Byrne to accept the **Agri-Business** Sector Committee Report (item 5.2.ii), seconded by Nelson Santos.

**Carried.**

### **5.3 Governance and By-Laws**

Moved by Mike Mueller, seconded by Dave Cooke that the meeting move In-Camera.

**Carried.**

- i. By-Laws – No new items
- ii. Relocation Initiative

Moved by Mike Mueller to move out of In-Camera session, seconded by Roy Verstraete.

**Carried.**

**5.4 Audit Committee Reports** – No new Items.

**5.5 Legal Issues** – No new items.

## **6.0 Administrative and Management Business**

### **6.1 Regulatory Compliance Report**

Moved by Mike Mueller to accept the Regulatory Compliance Report as presented, seconded by Roy Verstraete.

**Carried.**

### **6.2 Operational Review**

- i. ***Financial Status and Financial Disclosures***  
Financial statements were presented and reviewed.
- ii. ***Client and Business Development Report***  
Patrick Persichilli reported on several initiatives and economic activity.
- iii. ***Legal Issues Report***  
Patrick Persichilli reported on taxation and objectives for WEEDC.
- iv. ***Partnerships, Stakeholder Engagement Report***  
Patrick Persichilli reported on numerous events and how the WEEDC is looking at key industries and sectors based on the outcome of the strategic plan.
- v. ***Administrative and Organizational Issue***

Patrick Persichilli spoke about the W-E Small Business Centre, its services, that it is one of the busiest in Ontario, and that we need to get the word out on some of the successes.

Moved by Mike Mueller to accept the WEEDC report and items i, ii, iii, iv and v as presented, seconded by Roy Verstraete.

**Carried**

### **6.3 Special Projects and Administrative Reports**

#### ***i. Strategic Plan Report***

Ron Gaudet noted that the strategic plan is now accessible on the WEEDC website and that stakeholder meetings have been taking place. Ron said that the feedback from the community has been very encouraging and that the WEEDC is being asked by stakeholders to be a catalyst of the region.

Moved by Shelley Fellows to accept the Strategic Planning Report as presented, seconded by Dr. Bird.

**Carried.**

### **6.4 Board Approvals and Direction** – No new items

### **6.5 Nominations Committee**

The board discussed the possible formation of a Nominations Committee.

Lindsay Boyd noted that the Governance Committee will be meeting on November 4, 2010.

### **6.6 Ontario Works**

Patrick Persichilli reported on Ontario Works funding.

### **7.0 Other Business** - No new items

### **8.0 Upcoming Events**

- Strategic Plan – 2 Town Hall Sessions (City and County)

### **9.0 Media Events** – No new items

### **10.0 Board In-Camera**

Motion by Mike Mueller to move to Board only In-camera session at 6:00 pm. WEEDC staff, being Ron Gaudet, Patrick Persichilli, Karolyn Hart and Lee Anne Damphouse leave the boardroom.

**Carried.**

All WEEDC staff return to the boardroom at 6:10 pm.

**11.0 Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mike Mueller at 6:15 pm, seconded by Shelley Fellows.

**Carried.**

Accordingly, the meeting is adjourned at 6:15 pm

CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

VICE-CHAIR: \_\_\_\_\_

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