



WCEDD Meeting Agenda

April 11, 2023 at 1:00 pm | Web Conference

Members in attendance

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| - Rudy Marconi, Chair | First Selectman, Town of Ridgefield |
| - Hal Kurfehs | Scalzo Commercial & New Development |
| - Leah Kagan | Economic Development, City of Stamford |
| - Janice Chrzescijanek | Economic Development, Town of Bethel |
| - Jennie Ripps | Owner, Owl's Brew, Stamford |
| - Jason Patlis | Maritime Aquarium of Norwalk |
| - Lisa Mercurio | AdvanceCT |
| - Lisa Scalis | Executive Director, Cultural Alliance of Western CT |
| - Jennifer Orlikoff | Dean, UCONN Stamford Campus |
| - Eric Erdtmann | VP Senior Commercial Loan Officer, Fairfield County Bank |

Francis Pickering, Michael Towle, and Betsy Paynter attended on behalf of WestCOG:

Meeting Call to Order

Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 1:02

Public Participation

No public

Approval of January 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: J. Patlis made a motion to approve the January 2024 minutes, H. Kurfehs seconded. All in favor.

WCEDD Member Introduction

Betsy thanked existing WCEDD members and welcomed interested new WCEDD members. Members introduced themselves. Eric Erdtmann introduced himself from Fairfield County Bank as a new interested member.

Guest Speaker

- *Lisa Mercurio, AdvanceCT, VP Business Development presents "The Future Runs through Connecticut: Economic Development and TeamCT"*

L. Mercurio provided an update on the various business development activities and trade shows happening with AdvancedCT to attract new business to the state of CT.

Legislative Update

F. Pickering provided an update on the "The good, the bad, and the ugly" regarding this year's legislative session. See [WestCOG's policy priorities page](#) for detailed testimony regarding these bills.

WestCOG's Brownfield Program

Betsy Paynter and Jacklyn Reelick, Program Managers at WestCOG, provide an update on WestCOG's recently launched regional Brownfields Program.

WestCOG Planning Activity:

- Affordable Housing Finance Study is underway
- Agricultural Farm Viability Study is underway

Discussion

- Member Updates were shared
- Jason Patlis provided an update that April 30th is Norwalk Day at the Capitol in Hartford.

Upcoming Meetings

- Quarterly 2024 WCEDD meeting schedule, @ 1pm via WestCOG Zoom:
 - Thursday, July 11, 2024
 - Thursday, October 10, 2024

Adjournment

Motion: L. Mercurio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:04pm, J. Patlis seconded. All in favor.

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