

Economic Development Commission (EDC)

Legislative Reference:

State: CGS 7-136.

Town: Code 2-146 to 2-148, last amended by Ordinance #221, and Council Resolution adopted October 15, 1991.

Other Bylaws and/or Rules of Procedure: 2002 Plan of Conservation and Development.

Type: Statutory and permanent.

Geographic Responsibility: Town of Groton.

History: Created by Ordinance #26, October 23, 1961; amended by Ordinances #35, #163, and #221.

Powers and Duties:

General: The promotion and development of the economic resources of the Town, and of the business and industrial resources of the Town. (Code 2-147)

Specific: The Commission may appoint employees necessary for the discharge of its duties. It conducts research into the economic conditions and trends, makes recommendations regarding action to improve the economic condition and development, seeks to coordinate the activities of and cooperate with unofficial bodies; the Commission may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts and pamphlets which will further its official purposes. The Commission shall annually prepare a report of its activities and of its recommendations for improving economic conditions and development. (CGS 7-136)

Town Council Resolution passed October 28, 1997 stated that the Economic Development does not appear to be suited for project management responsibilities, and that the Town Manager be directed to develop a thorough orientation process for newly appointed members. The Resolution stated that the EDC focus on the following:

1. Take the lead role as emissary to other boards and commissions on economic development issues;
2. Be a positive influence at all times regarding the potential that Groton has to offer;
3. Serve as a liaison to the business community and be a conduit back to the Town Manager and EDC staff with information and business concerns.

Appointing Authority: Town Manager. (Code 2-148)

Term of Office: Five (5) years, staggered, for members; one-year terms for ex-officio members.
(Code 2-148 & Ord #221)

Membership:

Number: Nine (9) members, plus up to 3 ex-officio, non-voting members representing various other interests. (Code 2-148 & Ord #221)

Requirements: The Town Manager may appoint no more than two (2) non-resident members who represent significant business interests in the community. (TC Res 10/15/91)
Members may be removed by the Town Manager for cause and, on request, after public hearing. (CGS 7-136)

Meeting Schedule and Location: Monthly at the Town Hall Annex, with exceptions.

Staff: Office of Planning and Development Services (OPDS).

Records: Located in the Office of Planning and Development Services.
Agendas and minutes also on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Further information:

Members may not receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses. The Town may annually appropriate for its purposes one-twentieth of one percent of the last-completed grand list of taxable property. (CGS 7-136)
(OPDS)/Economic Development: 446-5988.