



StartUP Bristol Task Force - Special Meeting  
February 9, 2022 4:00 p.m.  
ECD Conference Room, City Hall, Bristol, CT  
**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Michael Zammett, Michael Prentiss, Jeffrey Andrade, Lynn Pernal  
Absent: Lawrence Covino, Michael Sweeney  
Staff: Justin Malley  
Guests: Nicole Kufa  
April Tibbetts

I. Call to Order

Michael Zammett called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

II. Name Chairperson

Lynn Pernal made a motion to elect Michael Zammett as Chair, seconded by Michael Prentiss. Motion passed.  
Members of the Task Force introduced themselves.

Justin provided a review of the purpose of this task force and how the ECD grants are done in general.

III. Public Participation - None

IV. Approval of Minutes of the September 8, 2021 special meeting.

Minutes were tabled.

V. New Business Proposal

A. Tafika Arts – Nicole Kufa

Nicole provided background of her business and its growth. The business began online and then moved to shows. The products come from Zimbabwe mostly and also Kenya and the Congo. She described her customer base. She discussed their product line and which items are likely to generate the most revenue. She answered questions about the business, their marketing strategy and their financial projections and obligations.

B. Family Roots – April Tibbetts

April spoke about the business and how it has been over the past year. They have eight (8) employees, 4 full-time and 4 part-time. The business fluctuates each month. Currently they average about 200 people (customers) per day. She answered questions and addressed the issues of location, rising prices, and their plans for the space.

VI. **Lynn Pernal made a motion, seconded by Jeffrey Andrade, to go into Executive Session at 5:05 p.m.**

**Lynn Pernal made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 5:25 p.m., seconded by Jeffrey Andrade.**

VII. Take any Action as Necessary on Above Items

**Lynn Pernal made a motion, seconded by Michael Prentiss, to table action on the Tafika Arts application. All present voted in favor and the motion passed.**

**Lynn Pernal made a motion to approve a Downtown Grant in the amount of up to \$58,538.95, representing up to \$54,538.95 for assistance with permanent building improvements toward the establishment of the Family Roots produce retail business at 370 Riverside Avenue, and up to \$4,000 for the creation of four new full-time employment positions, and to refer to the Economic and Community Development Board for information. Jeffrey Andrade seconded the motion, all present voted in favor. Motion passed.**

VIII. Adjournment

Michael Prentiss made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m., seconded by Jeffrey Andrade. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Cooper  
Recording Secretary