



## Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday March 12, 2015 – 12:00 Noon  
Town Manager’s Conference Room, First Floor, Town Hall  
MINUTES

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) - Mark Trahan - Chairman, Gioia Zack - Vice Chairman, Tony Martino - Town Council, Leslie Civiello - Chamber of Commerce, Joan Hughes, Mirella D'Antonio, Dorcas McHugh, Ken Rizzio, John Adamian, Jeff Bridges - Town Manager, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning & Economic Development and Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner.
3. Old Business
  - a. Vacant Property Updates - Peter Gillespie discussed the following properties:
    - 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Met with interested party this morning. A meeting will be set up with the State Delegation to discuss additional funding options.
    - Jordan Lane nursing home - Interested developer
    - 295 Ridge Road - Interested developer in market rate housing
    - 446 Silas Deane Highway - Proposed medical office
    - 125 Silas Deane Highway - O'Reilly Auto Parts will take up three of the remaining four tenant spaces.
  - b. Grant Project Status
    1. Heritage Walk – HFGP and CT Humanities - Mr. Gillespie noted that the Town Council awarded the bid to the sign manufacturer. A meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss finalizing the panels. The project received approval from the Historic District Commission on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gillespie then described the proposed signage to the EDIC. There will be an associated map and brochure.
    2. Church/Main Street Intersection - The public information session was held on January 29<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the proposal was distributed for review. The Town Council recently endorsed the concept of a four way stop. The final engineering stage and then the design will be put out to bid.
    3. STEAP 2014 – 1000 Silas Deane Highway/Façade Funding - Nothing additional to report.
4. New Business
  - a. Business Directory - ShopWethersfield.biz - Mark Trahan noted that the initiative is up and running.
  - b. Welcome Wagon/New Business/Ribbon Cutting – 2015 - The Welcome Wagon and New Business initiatives was discussed at the 3/12 Marketing Sub-Committee Meeting. Peter Gillespie discussed recent ribbon cuttings and noted that they will be promoted on the town's website.
  - c. Why Wethersfield – A brief discussion ensued, follow up at the Marketing Sub-Committee meeting.

- d. Budget 2015/2016 - Peter Gillespie noted that there is a budget meeting scheduled for Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>.
5. Other Business - There was no other business to discuss.
6. Reports  
Town Manager's Report – Jeff Bridges The Board of Education will make their presentation to Town Council on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The debt service of the High School project hits this year. Mr. Bridges also discussed the issue of potholes.  
Town Council Liaison's Report – Tony Martino reported that the Town Council approved LoCIP funding and a grant for the Town Clerk's office.  
Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report - A meeting will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>. There is a special permit pending for 530 Silas Deane Highway and conceptual plan for the Harris property on Back Lane and for an addition to the Webb-Deane -Stevens Museum.  
Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie reported that one of the members will be attending a regional conference in Portland Maine. The Commission is also working to update the Rack Card.  
Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report –Leslie Civitello reported on upcoming Business After Hours including March 18<sup>th</sup> at Key Human Services, Consignment Originals in April and Berkshire Hathaway in May. April 10<sup>th</sup> dinner at the Club to support the Fireworks. Annual dinner May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Wethersfield Country Club.
7. Chairman's Report – Mark Trahan - Nothing additional to report.
8. Sub-Committee Reports Marketing and Communications - A meeting will be scheduled.  
Financial Strategies - A meeting was held on March 12<sup>th</sup> with Todd Lamore to discuss the status of his approved facade loan.
9. Minutes – February 2015 Meeting - Ken Rizzio made a motion to approve the minutes. Joan Hughes seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
10. Next Meeting – Thursday April 9, 2015
11. Correspondence - There was no correspondence.
12. Adjournment - Ken Rizzio made a motion to adjourn at 12:45 PM. Joan Hughes seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley  
Assistant Planner