

Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday July 11, 2013 – 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) - Chris Lyons, Vincent Fabi, Mark Trahan, Doug Sacks, Betty Rosania, Joan Hughes, Dorcas McHugh, Tony Martino, John Adamian, Melanie Goodin - Chamber of Commerce, Peter Gillespie-Town Planner and Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner.
3. Old Business
 - a. Vacant Property Updates - Peter Gillespie reported on the following:
 - 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Competing interests in property. Reviewing letters of interest and negotiating real estate terms. Peter and the Town Manager have met with the owner to discuss the role of the town in moving forward.
 - 1178 Silas Deane Highway - Spoke with the owner and broker regarding potential buyer.
 - 125 Silas Deane Highway - Getting ready to issue the first Certificate of Occupancy
 - Jordan Lane - Property maintenance issues.
 - 295 Ridge Road - Real estate negotiations taking place with new buyer interested in moving forward with the Assisted Living Facility.
 - Carmen Anthony's Fishhouse has closed. A new user has expressed interest in space.
 - 245 Main Street - Under contract for residential single-family use.
 - b. Grants
 1. Main Street Investment Fund Grant - Waiting on grant announcement.
 2. 2013 STEAP Grant - Waiting on grant announcement.
 3. CT Grown Joint Venture Program - \$1,497 grant awarded. Will require EDIC match.
 4. State Bond Commission - \$500,000 grant received for park and intersection improvements.
 - c. Farmer's Market - Doug Sacks notified the EDIC of his resignation and of the need for a new market liaison to make the monthly report. The market is having a successful season despite the rain. The EDIC members expressed gratitude for Doug's member service. Betty Rosania volunteered to serve as the market liaison.

- d. Revitalization Plan – Masonic Building and Comstock Ferre - The plan was presented by CME at a public information meeting held on Wednesday, July 10th at 7 PM in the Town Council members.

4. New Business

- a. Breakfast Meeting - October - Peter Gillespie discussed scheduling a breakfast meeting at the Wethersfield Country Club and incorporating the new business recognition portion of the Salute to Business event into a semi-annual event. Distribute certificates and inform the new businesses about resources available to them in town. Contact Ron Salerno to discuss scheduling on either the 16th or the 23rd at 8:00 AM.
- b. Town Calendar - 2014 - The Marketing Sub-Committee met to discuss moving the project forward. Peter Gillespie noted that a meeting will be set up in the next few weeks.
- c. Election of Officers – 2013/2014 - Chris Lyons nominated Mark Trahan as Chairman and Vincent Fabi as Vice Chairman. Dorcas McHugh seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The EDIC members expressed gratitude for Chris Lyons service as Chairman.

5. Other Business - Nothing to report.

6. Reports Town Manager's Report - Jeff Bridges reported on the following:

- Bids opening for WHS
- Mayor of Nagayo, our sister city in Japan, is visiting in October. A program is being put together for the occasion.

Town Council Liaison's Report - No report was given.

Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report - Peter Gillespie reported that the amendments to the Wethersfield High School proposal were approved, an extension was granted to the Folly Brook Commons approval and the abandonment of a home occupation on Wolcott Hill Road.

Tourism Commission Liaison's Report - Dorcas McHugh reported on the public meeting for the Masonic/Comstock revitalization plan.

Redevelopment Agency Liaison Report - No report was given.

Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report - Melanie Goodin reported on the following:

- Wethersfield Night at the Rockcats
- BAH at Farnington Bank next Wednesday
- Cornfest will be held Saturday, September 21st

Director of Planning and Economic Development's Report - Peter Gillespie reported on the following:

- 1260 Silas Deane Highway will be constructing an addition
- Goff Brook Shops

7. Chairman's Report - Nothing additional to report.

8. Sub-Committee Reports Marketing and Communications - Nothing additional to report.
 Financial Strategies - Nothing additional to report.
 Farmers' Market - Nothing additional to report.
9. Minutes – June 13, 2013 Meeting - Betty Rosania made a motion to approve as submitted. Tony Martino seconded and all voted in favor. John Adamian abstained.
10. Next Meeting – August 8, 2013
11. Correspondence - There was no correspondence.
12. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley
Assistant Planner