



Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday, October 9, 2014 – 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 P.M.
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) - Chairman Mark Trahan, Vice-Chair Gioia Zack, Dan Silver, Mirella D'Antonio, Joan Hughes, John Adamian, Dorcas McHugh, Judy Keane, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning and Economic Development, Tony Martino - Town Council, Jeff Bridges - Town Manager and Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner.
3. Old Business
 - a. Vacant Property Updates
 - 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Formalizing building permit submission for demolition permit. The Letter of Agreement is being drafted. The Agreement needs final approval from Town Council. No tenants have signed on to the project yet. There may be restaurant, retail and mixed use housing conceptually. There is an expectation from the town that after the demolition, within a certain period of time there would be activity.
 - 1178 Silas Deane Highway - Met with Elliot Gerston. Sent property maintenance enforcement letters. There is talk about combining the property with the adjacent property to the north (1160 Silas Deane Highway - Webster Bank).
 - 125 Silas Deane Highway - Possible lease negotiations
 - 341 Jordan Lane - Spoke with realtors and expecting submission of a conceptual plan in the next few weeks.
 - 295 Ridge Road - Property had been up for tax sale. The taxes were paid off and the previous owner redeemed the property.
 - b. Grant Project Status
 1. Heritage Interpretive Walk – HFGP and CT Humanities - Peter Gillespie reported that the Tourism Commission is continuing the panel edits.
 2. Church/Main Street Intersection - Peter Gillespie reported on continuing to compile historical data. Meeting with the engineer to discuss conceptual plans.
4. New Business
 - a. Business Directory - ShopWethersfield.biz
 - b. Façade Improvement Program and Policy – Town Attorney will be reviewing changes before submission to Town Council
 - c. 25th Annual Salute To Business – December 11 - Distributed a list of potential longevity and special recognition awards. Discussion ensued regarding including recognition of new businesses.

- e. STEAP 2015 - Peter Gillespie reported that the next round of applications is due in November. If there are projects that should be added to the list being recommended to Town Council.
 - f. Photo Contest - The deadline for submission is November 11, 2014.
 - g. Town Calendar 2015 - Schedule a Marketing Meeting to review the document.
5. Other Business - There was no other business to report.
 6. Reports
 - Town Manager's Report – Jeff Bridges reported on the WHS status of the project. He also mentioned that leaf pickup will commence in the next few weeks.
 - Town Council Liaison's Report – Tony Martino reported on a change order for the Environmental Consultant for the high school project. Hired a new financial advisor for bonding for the high school project. Looking to share data processing with Town Hall and the Board of Education.
 - Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie reported the approval of a zone change on the project directly adjacent to the west of the Goff Brook Shops. The owner has future parking expansion planned.
 - Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh reported that the Photo Contest and the Holidays on Main event was discussed. Working with the State Tourism Commission on revamping their marketing campaign.
 7. Chairman's Report – Mark Trahan noted the upcoming Keane Foundation Coveside Carnival.
 8. Sub-Committee Reports
 - Marketing and Communications - No report was given. A meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 22 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 9:00 A.M.
 - Financial Strategies - No report was given.
 9. Minutes – September 11, 2014 Meeting - John Adamian noted a change in Denise Bradley's title and made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Joan Hughes seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
 10. Next Meeting – Thursday November 13, 2014
 11. Correspondence - There was no additional correspondence.
 12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner