

Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday, March 13, 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 12:30 p. m.
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) - Mark Trahan - Chairman, Tony Martino, Ken Rizzio, Doug Sacks, Joan Hughes, Gioia Zack, Jeff Bridges - Town Manager, Stacey Hodges - Chamber President, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning and Economic Development and Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner.
3. Old Business
 - a. Vacant Property Updates- Peter Gillespie reported on the following:
 - 176 Cumberland Avenue - Progress on CREC Magnet School
 - 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Developer looking to demolish the building, submitting an application to STEAP to help with associated cost
 - 1178 Silas Deane Highway
 - 105-210 Silas Deane Highway
 - b. Farmers Market - Doug Sacks reported on the highlights of the upcoming season including a series of 4 Farm to Table Dinners, on market day, no reservations needed, create moveable feast after market, searching for grant funding may apply for a Farm to School grant program. Spoke with Superintendent of schools and he is interested. Consider changing the Market date to a Sunday for the 2015 season. July-September they may try a beta Sunday and pop up market.
 - c. Grant Project Status
 1. Heritage Interpretive Trail – HFGP and CT Humanities – Peter Gillespie reported on the highlights of the kick-off meeting.
 2. Church/Main Street Intersection – Nothing additional to report.
 3. STEAP Applications 2014 – Peter Gillespie reported on funding priorities and noted that applications would be submitted for assistance in the demolition of 1000 Silas Deane Highway, Façade Loan Program, Standish House building and site improvements and Solomon Wells parking lot improvements.
4. New Business
 - a. Business Directory - Businesses can go to the directory and change and/or add their listing in the directory. Working on survey to mailout to all the businesses in town to make them aware and encourage them to go to the website. Mark Trahan reiterated the need to execute the program and requested a meeting be called to discuss further details. Ask Tom Hemphill to locate this feature in a more prominent location
 - b. Budget 2014/2015 - Saturday April 26th Session with the Town Council
 - c. Façade Improvement Program and Policies - The Sub Committee has one application pending and is considering revising the program guidelines and application forms.

5. Other Business – There was no other business to report.
6. Reports Town Manager's Report - Jeff Bridges mentioned that a new Finance Director was hired.
 - Budget Season
 - Nancy Still is retiring, merge Social & Youth and Recreation Services

Town Council Liaison's Report - Tony Martino reported on STEAP applications.

Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report - Peter Gillespie reported that the Commission will be hearing a proposed zoning

Tourism Commission Liaison's Report - Heritage Trail Program, new rack card, new e-blast template

Redevelopment Agency Liaison Report - Agency met for the first time in a year on Monday. EDIC should have a liaison.

Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report - Stacey Hodges reported that the Fireworks Event will be moving forward. Rock Cats 4/8, Yacht Club 4/11, Fireworks 5/31

Director of Planning and Economic Development's Report - No additional report was given.
7. Chairman's Report - Mark Trahan would like to fine tune membership including emails. Take a hard look at attendance and recruitment on new membes.
8. Minutes – January 9, 2014 Meeting
9. Next Meeting – Thursday April 19, 2014
10. Correspondence – There was no correspondence.
11. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner