



Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

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

1. Call to order - Mark Trahan called the meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM

Chairman Mark Trahan, Vice-Chair Gioia Zack, Dorcas McHugh, Dan Silver, Leslie Civitello - Chamber of Commerce, Mark , Judy Keane, Peter O' Keefe, Jeff Bridges - Town Manager, Tony Martino - Town Council, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning and Economic Development and Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner.

2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required)

3. Old Business a. Vacant Property Updates - Peter Gillespie reported on the following properties:

- 1000 Silas Deane Highway - Announcement made. Details are still being worked out for Ashley Furniture to demolish the existing building and construct an 80,000 regional headquarters and small showroom. STEAP grant funding of \$250,000 to assist with the demolition is still available.
- 341 Jordan Lane - Recent Inquiry to discuss a similar use and plans to reuse the existing building.
- 1178 Silas Deane Highway - Preliminary concept plans have been made available for review.
- Back Lane - Application pending for a 20 lot single-family subdivision. Working its way through the land use process including Inland Wetlands and Planning & Zoning.
- 295 Ridge Road - Conducting neighborhood meetings. Permit process will commence in the next few weeks. The tax incentive was executed and signed.
- 207 Church Street - Renovate existing building for mixed use commercial and residential and to construct a residential multi-family building in the rear.

- b. Grant Project Status

1. Heritage Walk – HFPG and CT Humanities - Peter Gillespie reported on the installation of the signs. Tentative ribbon cutting will be scheduled for Wednesday, November 25th at lunchtime.
2. Church/Main Street Intersection - Peter Gillespie reported on the progress of the site improvements. The temporary 4 way stop has been incorporated.
3. STEAP 2014 – 1000 Silas Deane Highway/Façade Funding - Peter Gillespie discussed this item during the vacant properties update. No additional report was given.

4. New Business a. Welcome Wagon - Sample of Welcome Wagon to promote the new program.
- b. Salute To Business – December 9 - Wednesday evening. Award notifications have been sent. Mike Zaleski from Riverfront Recapture is willing to attend as a keynote.

- c. 2015 Community Photo Contest - Not as many submissions were received. Reviewing with the Tourism Commission next week.
5. Other Business - Ribbon Cutting - Tuesday, December 8th at 2PM
6. Reports Town Manager's Report – Jeff Bridges reported on the new Town Council and Board of Education swearing in. Budget process is beginning. The High School project is approximately 2/3rds complete.

 Town Council Liaison's Report – Tony Martino reported on the highlights of the last Town Council meeting.
 Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie reported on the application for an indoor/outdoor restaurant at Putnam Park - 100 Great Meadow Road.
 Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh reported on the recent visit from a Commercial Travel Writer from the Huffington Post.
 Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report –Leslie Civitello reported on the following:
 - Business After Hours - Kathy's Urgent Care November 12th
 - Small Business Saturday - November 28th
 - Holidays on Main - December 3rd
 - State of the Town - January 28th at 8 AM
 - Dance to Support the Fireworks - Early February
 - Business Expo - April 7th
 - Fireworks - June 4th
7. Chairman's Report – Mark Trahan made a motion to support Holidays on Main with a \$500 donation.
8. Sub-Committee Reports Marketing and Communications - Nothing additional to report.
 Financial Strategies - Nothing additional to report.
9. Minutes – October 2015 Meeting - Not available for review.
10. Next Meeting – Thursday, December 10, 2015.
11. Correspondence - There was no additional correspondence.
12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley, Assistant Planner