

**Economic Development & Improvement Commission**  
**Regular Meeting – Thursday September 9, 2010 – 12:00 Noon**  
Town Manager’s Conference Room, First Floor, Town Hall

**MINUTES**

1. Call To Order – Chris Lyons called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) – Chris Lyons, Betty Rosania, Betty Standish, Doug Sacks, Rick Willard, Bill Knapp, Joan Hughes, Dorcas McHugh, John Adamian, Ken Rizzio, Stahis Manousos – Town Council, Ellyn Laramie – Chamber, Jeff Bridges – Town Manager, Peter Gillespie – Director of Planning & Economic Development & Denise Bradley – Assistant Planner.
3. Old Business
  - a. Farmer’s Market – Doug Sacks reported that the program has an approximate \$2,000 surplus and discussed that interest in having a winter market is gaining. He noted venue options available and asked the EDIC members to be more active in supporting this effort if they are interested in seeing it continue to grow.
  - b. Wethersfield Shops Local – Denise Bradley reported that 100 local businesses have already signed up to participate and discussed having a \$1,000 Holiday Shopping Spree Gift Certificate drawing at this year’s Salute to Business event.
  - c. Façade Applications - Peter Gillespie reported the following:
    - Approximately \$20,000 remaining in fund
    - Currently 1 pending application
    - Closed on Express Dental Lab loan
    - Closed on 318 Silas Deane Highway loan
    - Ready to schedule closing for Wolcott Hill Road loan
    - 7 Railroad Place will be required to repay façade loan if the property sells
4. New Business
  - a. Vacant Property - Updates Peter Gillespie reported that progress has been made with the Weight Watchers building with regards to the owner being willing to partner financially with the Redevelopment Agency on a Redevelopment Plan. He noted that the Fun Zone property is still under option. He also reported that Colleen Sheridan has been appointed to the Redevelopment Agency.
  - b. Town Calendar and Business Directory – Peter Gillespie reported that the RFP is out and that responses are due on September 15<sup>th</sup>. A meeting will be called to discuss the responses.
  - c. CornFest – Peter Gillespie noted that the Wethersfield Shops Local Program will have a booth and asked EDIC members to volunteer hours and a sign-up sheet was distributed.

d. Salute To Business 2010 – The Salute to Business will be held December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wethersfield Country Club.

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

- Beginning to think about the upcoming budget season
- Compiling a book of before & after shots to showcase the Façade Loan program.
- The town is considering the disposal of several town-owned properties

Town Council Liaison's Report – Stathis Manousos discussed the highlights on the August 18<sup>th</sup> Business Friendly meeting.

Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Peter Gillespie reported on the highlights of the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh discussed the highlights on the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Redevelopment Agency Liaison Report – Nothing additional to report.

Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report – Ellyn Laramie discussed the Cornfest and the Holiday Stroll on Main Street.

Director of Planning and Economic Development's Report – A copy of the report was included.

6. Chairman's Report – Nothing additional to report.

7. Sub-Committee Reports - Marketing and Communications – Nothing additional to report.  
Financial Strategies – Nothing additional to report.

8. Minutes- July and August 2010 Meetings – Betty Rosania noted that she was not at the July meeting as reported in the minutes. Rick Willard made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Joan Hughes seconded the motion. With Betty Rosania & John Adamian abstaining, the vote was passed.

Betty Standish made a motion to approve the August meeting minutes. John Adamian seconded the motion. Chris Lyons abstained, the vote was passed.

9. Next Meeting – October 14, 2010

10. Correspondence – No additional correspondence.

11. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

cc: Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk