

# Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)

Regular Meeting – Thursday, January 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 PM
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) - Mark Trahan - Chair, Dan Silver, John Adamian, Vincent Fabi, Stacey Hodges - Chamber of Commerce, Joan Hughes, Dorcas McHugh, Gioia Zack, Jeff Bridges - Town Manager, Tony Martino - Town Council, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning and Economic Development, Denise Bradley - Assistant Planner, Melanie Goodin - Chamber of Commerce and Leigh Standish - Planning and Zoning Commission.
3. Old Business
  - a. Vacant Property Updates Peter Gillespie reported on the following properties:
    - 176 Cumberland Avenue
    - 1178 Silas Deane Highway
    - 1000 Silas Deane Highway
    - 105 - 210 Silas Deane Highway
  - b. Grant Project Status
    1. Heritage Interpretive Trail – HFPG and CT Humanities - Peter Gillespie noted that there is a kick-off meeting this afternoon with the project stakeholders. Half of the grant funding has already been received.
    2. Church/Main Street Intersection - Peter Gillespie noted that he was still waiting for additional information.
    3. STEAP 2014 - Peter Gillespie noted that a meeting will be taking place on 1/9 to discuss funding priorities.
4. New Business
  - a. Town Calendar - 2014 - Copies are now available.
  - b. Business Directory - Peter Gillespie noted that we have been meeting with the IT Dept. regarding the project. There are additional costs associated with going forward. The IT Dept. estimated the cost not to exceed \$1,000. Dorcas McHugh made a motion to spend not more than \$1,000 for QSCEND to work on the project. Leigh Standish seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
  - c. Salute To Business – December 12 - This will be the 25th Annual Event.
  - e. State of the Town/Financial Assistance Breakfast - January 30 - Mark Trahan encouraged all EDIC members to attend. The State of the Town is being combined with the Breakfast Meeting. Possibly assign people to reach out to important stakeholders to personally invite to attend. The CT DECD agreed to stay after to speak with anyone looking for additional information or who are interested in applying.

Approximately 50 people have already registered to attend. Peter Gillespie encouraged members to personally reach out to those folks they feel might have an interest in this event.

5. Other Business - Gioia Zack discussed the lack of an informational/marketing flyer for Wethersfield. As a commercial realtor she recognizes the importance of creating such a piece and has work on a draft document for discussion. She asked the members to review the draft and get her feedback.

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

- WHS Bids - Report expected next week, additions and remediation is underway
- State of the Town
- Commercial valuations went up approximately 3%.
- Budget season beginning

Town Council Liaison's Report - Tony Martino reported on the following:

- Purchase of a firetruck
- Charter Revision Committee sworn in
- Resolved the issue with the Police Retirees

Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report - Leigh Standish reported on the following:

- 226 Prospect Street (Mitchell on the Park) - Approval of a telecommunications facility.
- 245 Main Street (Masonic Hall) - 1/22 PZc Meeting

Tourism Commission Liaison's Report - Dorcas McHugh had nothing to report.

Redevelopment Agency Liaison Report - Mayor Montinieri would like to reinstitute this Agency. An update on the status will follow.

Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report - Stacey Hidges reported on the following:

- 1/8 Holidays on Main wrap-up meeting, cost estimates to expand street closing.
- Fireworks Committee - Looking into a new date.
- Car Show in April - Looking for a new location. Meeting 1/10.
- Valentine's Day Dance - \$20 BYO. Pitken Community Center from 7- 11 PM on 2/14.

Director of Planning and Economic Development's Report - Nothing additional to report.

7. Chairman's Report - The spotlight will be on the EDIC this year. He encouraged members to bring any ideas they may have for new initiatives.
8. Sub-Committee Reports           Marketing and Communications - Looking for a chair.  
  Financial Strategies - Peter Gillespie noted the priority of reviewing/evising existing loan documents and procedures.  
  Farmers' Market - Peter Gillespie just recieved the end of the season expense report. A meeting will be set up with Doug to discuss the 2014 season.
9. Minutes – December 10, 2013 Meeting - Joan Hughes made a motion to approve the minutes. Gioia Zack seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
10. Next Meeting – Thursday, February 13, 2014
11. Correspondence - There was no other correspondence.
12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bradley  
Assistant Planner