

MAYOR
MICHAEL J. DOODY

DEPUTY MAYOR
JOSEPH E. FAUGHNAN

TOWN MANAGER
MICHAEL T. PAULHUS



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DANIEL M. ARMIN
ANTHONY S. CANDELORA
MARIE E. DIAMOND
CHRIS MANNA
GEORGE I. MILLER
ALFRED D. ROSE

TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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Minutes Economic Development Commission November 30, 2015

1. Call to order and roll call

Member Jan Finch called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Elisabeth Caplan, Diana Pelliccio, Jan Finch and Joan Tutor

Also present: Town Manager Michael Paulhus

Visitors: Chris Kranick,

2. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting - September 23, 2015

Approved at November 2, 2015 meeting.

Special Meeting - October 1, 2015

Approved at November 2, 2015 meeting.

Special Meeting -October 19, 2015

Approved at November 2, 2015 meeting.

3. New Business

a. Discussion of Business Visitation Program

Member Caplan gave an overview of the recent informal presentation given by Richard Lopresti, Chair of North Haven EDC. Ms. Caplan overviewed Mr. Lopresti's suggestions of best practices for beginning the Business Visitation Program, including resources to include in a packet as well as suggestions for actual visits. Members were assigned the suggested resources to research and bring to the next meeting. Member Caplan also opened discussion on organizing

a breakfast meeting for Town businesses. Members discussed the best time to have a kick off would be spring.

There was also discussion on the most effective approach for businesses and documenting information from the visits. It was suggested that a consistent agenda item appear on each months meeting agenda to include updates from the visits. Chris Kranick agreed to work on a template for collecting information from visits.

Mr. Lopresti suggested a membership to CEDA (Connecticut Economic Development Association), which has a \$100. per year membership fee. Meetings are held in Rocky Hill each month. Members felt this would be a very worthwhile membership and requested that Town Manager Michael Paulhus ask for the funding for the membership.

Members also discussed the importance of business cards. Town Manager Michael Paulhus took suggestions from members on useful information to be included on the cards. Mr. Paulhus agreed to move forward and order the cards.

b. Collateral Material from REX

Chairman Finch shared the material done by REX and members discussed the quality of the pamphlet. It was suggested this would be a great tool to build on for information on Economic Development in Town.

c. Website

Town Manger Michael Paulhus updated members on the Town website. Members discussed best ways to include information and make the information on the EDC and economic development in Town more appealing and interesting.

d. Report on meeting Richard Lopresti, the Chair of the EDC for North Haven

Reported on in 3.a.

4. Other Business

a. Update on Centerplan – 1599 Foxon Road – North Branford

Town Manager Michael Paulhus updated members Centerplan, informing them that the new Town Attorney, Patrick Young has the contract and is in the process of preparing items to present to Centerplan focusing on time frame and accountability.

There was lengthy discussion on best ways to move forward keeping communication open and an optimistic outlook.

Members discussed working with the Department of Transportation. Town Manager Michael Paulhus overviewed the process of working with the DOT and some of the best ways to keep the communication moving forward. He explained some of the challenges with the property.

Mr. Paulhus overviewed updating the town Council and members felt compelled to give feedback on their work with the project. Members discussed the importance of relaying to the Town Council the following bullet points:

- The Town will receive one million dollars from the purchase by Centerplan
- There will be ongoing tax revenue once the project is completed
- Opening the door to future Economic Development in the area
- Bringing awareness to Economic Development in Town.

With nothing further to discuss on the Centerplan update, Chairman Finch moved on to additional other business.

Chairman Finch opened discussion on future meeting start times. Members discussed moving the start time to 6:00.

Member Pelliccio moved, seconded by Member Tutor to move future meetings times to 6:00 p.m. With all in favor motion passed.

Members discussed starting the December 7th meeting at 6:00, Mr. David Ambrose, tax assessor will present to the Commission.

Member Caplan informed the Commission of the exhibit of the winners from the Penni Sharp Memorial Art Contest hosted by the North Branford Land Conservation Trust. The opening will be on Sunday December 6th from 1pm to 3 pm. It will be up at the Atwater Library for two weeks then move to the Smith Library for two weeks.

5. **Adjournment**

Member Pelliccio made a motion to adjourn at 8:57 p.m., seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso
Recording Secretary

