

MAYOR
MICHAEL J. DOODY

DEPUTY MAYOR
JOSEPH E. FAUGHNAN

TOWN MANAGER
MICHAEL T. PAULHUS



COUNCIL MEMBERS
ROSE MARIE ANGELONI
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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Agenda
Economic Development Commission
July 10, 2017
Town Manager's Conference Room
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Jan Finch called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Members present were Jan Finch, Joan Tutor, Elisabeth Caplan, Chris Kranick and Scott Small.

Nonmembers present were Town Manager Michael Paulhus, Town Council Member Daniel Armin, Town Planner Carey Duques, Mr. Dennis Pannone.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. April 3, 2017

MOTION: Member Kranick moved to accept the minutes of April 3, 2017, seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

b. May 1, 2017

MOTION: Member Tutor moved to accept the minutes of May 1, 2017, seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

c. June 5, 2017

MOTION: Member Tutor moved to accept the minutes of June 5, 2017, seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Finch suggested they move the agenda to allow Mr. Pannone to speak.

MOTION: Member Caplan moved, seconded by Member Tutor to amend the agenda and move to 7.a. New Business – Dennis Pannone – Town Website. With all in favor, motion passed.

7.a. Dennis Pannone – Town Website.

Members discussed the link to the webinar sent out by Town Planner Carey Duques. Members decided the webinar should be looked at by Mr. Pannone to submit feedback. There was discussion on what members envision for the Town Website.

Mr. Pannone gave a history and overview of the website from when he began designing and managing the site. Members discussed the potential of the EDC managing the website as well as costs involved to change the Town Website design.

Upon a question from a member, Mr. Pannone explained steps involved to implement changes to the current website. Members overviewed examples of other Town websites and discussed design features.

Town Manager Michael Paulhus suggested ways to move forward with transparency and direction, potentially starting with an EDC web page.

Members decided on the following goals:

- o Consider other sites that are desirable to the EDC
- o Members should look at the webinar sent out by Town Planner Carey Duques
- o Begin a work group with Mr. Pannone.

These goals will allow the discussion to continue. Members decided this item will remain on the agenda.

Chairman Finch moved the agenda back to Item 3. Town Manager's Report

3. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Michael Paulhus reported on the following items.

d. EDC coordinator applicants

Currently the applicants for the position are on hold due to the hiring freeze. The official request is on tomorrow night's Town Council Meeting Agenda.

e. Update on 1599 Foxon Road

The Park and Rec Department has suggested 1599 should be an EDC item and has suggested the EDC consider usage of the property.

Member Small submitted site plan maps of 1599 Foxon Road for members to overview, make suggestions and share ideas.

f. Budget

Town Manager Michael Paulhus overviewed the present state of the State Budget and explained the Town continues to wait for a State Budget to be adopted.

4. Guest Speaker- Carey Duques

Town Planner Carey Duques distributed copies of the Agriculture brochure, stating they have distributed approximately 1,000 copies. They will additionally be available at the POCO Festival.

Ms. Duques also reported on business update:

- o The gas station on 80 & 22 is changing to an Exxon gas station and has seen an increase of 20% business. They will be doing a grand reopening.
- o Sisto Mellilo has just bout completed his new building and is still considering what he will offer in his store.
- o Planning and zoning changed the zoning to allow for wineries in Industrial and Business zones with a special use permit.

5. Report from Councilor Daniel Armin, liaison to Town Council

Town Councilor Daniel Armin reported the Council is in limbo currently waiting for the State Budget. He shared concerns about bringing up a new positon at this time.

Mr. Armin also gave an update on the issue of a potential RFP for 1599.

6. Old Business

a. Report on POCO - Liz

Member Caplan overviewed restaurant letters that will go out to local restaurants for participation in the business meeting as well as letters for businesses to attend.

b. Agricultural Commission Brochure

Discussed under Guest Speaker- Carey Duques.

c Potential RFP for 1675 Foxon Road (Old town Hall)

Was not discussed.

6. REX Report

Chairman Finch reported there was a meeting with Henry Talmadge Director of Agriculture, speaking. The talk was about Farmer's Markets and was very informative.

7. Update on Business Opportunities

Discussed under Guest Speaker- Carey Duques.

8. New Business

a. Dennis Pannone - Town Website

Moved forward and discussed earlier.

b. First Impression application

Town Planner Carey Duques overviewed the First Impression Program and updated members of the progress. Ms. Duques will bring information back to the EDC once they are placed in the program.

c. Webinar

Discussed under Dennis Pannone- Town Website.

9. Commission Reports

a. Real Estate – Member Tutor updated members on current market activity.

b. Visitation Program – Will be discussed next meeting.

c. Website –Member Small updated members on his ongoing research work of other Town websites.

d. Shoreline chamber – Chris updated members on membership and plans to expand to 70 members by the end of the year.

10. Other Business-no other business to discuss.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Tutor moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Member Caplan with all in favor motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso
Substitute Recording Secretary