TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

TOWN HALL, 909 FOXON ROAD, NORTH BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT 06471
TOWN MANAGER (203) 484-6000   TOWN HALL FAX (203) 484-6025

Agenda
Economic Development Commission
October 2, 2017
Town Manager's Conference Room
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

   Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

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

   Nonmembers present were Town Manager Michael Paulhus and Town Council Member Daniel Armin.

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. September 11, 2017

   MOTION: Member Kranick moved to accept the minutes of September 11, 2017, seconded by Member Small with the following correction, page 5 under Commission Reports, Sisto's name was misspelled Cisco, with all in favor and one abstention from Chairman Finch, motion passed.

3. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Michael Paulhus reported on the following:

A recent meeting was held with Town Planner Carey Duques and Steve Torino where they discussed Mr. Torino using a drone to photograph current topography of 1599 Foxon Road for the public hearing to be held on October 25th. Mr. Torino has volunteered his time and has done some great work with the drone.

The EDC/grant writer is on the Agenda for the October 3rd position.

Mr. Paulhus also informed members that the Town Council Agenda includes information on the impact of tax anticipation notes vs tax bills

There was discussion on different options to the Town as well as the potential of an approved State budget.

Mr. Paulhus overviewed ways the State decides on funding towns and what criteria they use when deciding how the money is dispersed.

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

Town Council Member Daniel Armin reported on the following:

- The requested EDC/grant writer will appear on the Town Council Agenda.

  o Member Kranick encouraged opening dialog about retaining businesses as well as bringing in new business.

- The Bozutto's sewer hookup request for the old Mill Pond site will also be on the agenda.

  o There was an explanation on capacity and priority for others who have paid for the line.

5. Old Business

    a.   1599 Foxon Road

    This was discussed above under Town Manager's report; the public hearing is October 25th.

    There was discussion on Member Small's architectural drawings for the site with varying options.

    Notices will be going out as well as reverse calls to patrons to inform the public. Members also discussed articles being written for all local papers.

    b. First Impressions Program – Scott, Joan, Jan

    Town Manager Paulhus stated they have been matched with Coventry and disclosed that he personally knows the Coventry Town Manager. The date of October 16th has been set for the visit.

Chairman Finch overviewed some of the training the committee has been through.

    c. Website- changes and recommendations
- review suggestions from Council Member Miller

Members discussed input from both Councilor Miller as well as Town Planner Carey Duques. Members discussed starting with the EDC.

Chairman Finch suggested a meeting dedicated to the web site.

Additionally, Town Planner Carey Duques has begun dialogue with Dennis Pannone who will present something to the EDC.

Member Kranick suggested a list of priorities to help with direction.

There was discussion on the visitation program.

Chairman Finch suggested each member look at websites and write down ideas.

Member Kranick will connect with Town Planner Carey Duques for an update for the next meeting.

NEXT meeting on AGENDA ***** Goal list!

    c. Town Council Public Hearing – October 25, 2017

Discussed above under Town Manager's Report

Members discussed speaking during the Public Hearing as well as potential for the property.

6. New Business
    a. Facebook – Liz- Will be discussed at the next meeting.

    b. Date for Business Breakfast- Tuesday Jan 22, 2018

Chairman Finch opened discussion on a business breakfast.
Members stated last year's event was successful and comments were positive. A date of January 23rd was discussed as a date.

d. Signage

- Signage and adopt a sign program – Town Planner Carey Duques

There was discussion on an adopt a sign program and the benefits and potential problems.

- Meeting with Carey and DOT – Joan

An informational packet with sign information and examples was distributed to each member

Member Tutor reported on the meeting stating important areas for signage.

Members discussed sign design, best construction material as well as cost and items that should be included. Specifically discussed was including the Town seal. Each member pointed out their preference among the examples. There was a discussion on ways to bring cost down on sign F. A general consensus from the members was example C as a design with purple and white coloring, a base from example F with the Town seal included.

There was a suggestion of having a sign company begin working with placement of the name and seal.

6. Commission Reports

   a. Real Estate – Joan

Member Tutor spoke with a commercial realtor who stated nothing new had leased but felt the traffic on 80 seems to be picking up. The market is lagging.   Joan will check on how the Town is doing compared to other towns.

   b. Visitation Program – Liz

Member Caplan was not at the meeting.

   e. Website – Scott

Discussed previously under 5.c Old Business.

   f. Shoreline chamber – Chris

Members discussed the resignation of Ed Lazarus who will be leaving the chamber on October 5th. Member Tutor will attend the next meeting.

8. Correspondence- Chris- East Haven

Member Krancik informed members on information he received regarding recent success with economic development in East Haven.

9. Adjourn

MOTION: Member Tutor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m., seconded by Member Kranick.   With all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso
Substitute Recording Secretary