

**MAYOR**  
MICHAEL J. DOODY

**DEPUTY MAYOR**  
ROSE MARIE ANGELONI

**TOWN MANAGER**  
MICHAEL T. PAULHUS



**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
ANTHONY S. CANDELORA  
MARIE E. DIAMOND  
JOSEPH E. FAUGHNAN  
GEORGE I. MILLER  
ALFRED D. ROSE  
ROBERT VIGLIONE  
THOMAS ZAMPANO

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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

Economic Development Commission  
Town Manager's Conference Room  
April 2, 2018  
**6:00 p.m.**

## 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Finch called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

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

Non-members present: Town Council Member Rose Angeloni and Town Manager Michael Paulhus

## 2. Approval of Minutes – March 5, 2018

**MOTION:** Member Small moved to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting, seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

## 3. Town Council Liaison

Chairman Finch introduced Town Councilor Rose Angeloni as the appointed Liaison from Town Council and thanked her for joining them.

## 4. Guests

### a. Sheri Cote, Shoreline Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Finch introduced Sheri Cote President of the Shoreline Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Cote thanked informed members that she does typically attend other Shoreline EDC meetings to gather information as well as inform the EDC's of Chamber events. Ms. Cote overviewed the Chamber's upcoming events and distributed information to members. She gave specific information on the upcoming event at Featherly Ever After to be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Ms. Cote also informed members that they will be redesigning the website as well as focusing on tourism.

Members discussed the potential of a representative from one of the farms or businesses to join the Shoreline Chamber Tourism Committee.

There was discussion on ways to include North Branford events on the Shore Line Chamber website.

Members informed Ms. Cote of upcoming North Branford events.

b. Dottie Savastano, SCORE

Chairman Finch introduced Dorothy Savastano from SCORE.

Ms. Savastano gave an overview of her professional background in marketing as well as the history and background of SCORE. Score is an all-volunteer organization which conducts entrepreneur and business workshops as well as mentoring businesses for growth or buying and selling businesses.

Ms. Savastano included information on the following:

- SCORE work through Chambers
- Private appointments
- Wednesday Workshops
- Entrepreneurial workshops
- New Business Series Workshops
- Topics delivered by professionals
- Library Workshops.

Ms. Savastano shared the website address and directed members to [www.newhavenscore.org](http://www.newhavenscore.org).

Members discussed the potential of holding workshops at the two libraries.

Members discussed ways the EDC could work together with SCORE. Ms. Savastano encouraged members to inform the public about SCORE and ways they could help through volunteer opportunities.

5. Town Manager Michael Paulhus Report

Mr. Paulhus Reported that they are in the middle of budget season with the Budget Hearing to be held tomorrow night. He also reported there have been five applicants for the position of EDC Coordinator, of which, two he will meet with. Mr. Paulhus also offered to contact Library Director Lauren Davis regarding a potential event with SCORE.

6. Old Business

a. 1599 Foxon Road

Town Council Member Rose Angeloni reported that the Council took action and voted to keep 1599 Foxon Road as open space for the present time. Councilor Angeloni overviewed an RFP that was submitted with no response, stating the RFP was not specific enough.

Members discussed the potential of a new RFP in the future, and also discussed obstacles of the property.

Members discussed a developer who has expressed interest in the property and whether it would be reasonable to invite the developer to an EDC meeting.

Member Small suggested a brain storming meeting on the property with different members of Town Hall and Town Council walking the site to look at potential possibilities, he showed new drawings with phase in suggestions.

Town Manager Michael Paulhus discussed limited options for access to the property.

b. Economic Development Coordinator

Discussed under Town Manager's report.

c. Map Creation

Member Small and Member Krancik met with Town Planner Carey Duques last month, the project is still a work in progress.

d. Earth Day, Little League Opener

Chairman Finch opened discussion on Earth Day. Member Caplan suggested members finalize plans.

The following was determined:

- April 21<sup>st</sup>, members should be on site by 8:00 a.m., the parade begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Member Caplan and Member Kranick will man the table from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Vice-Chair Tutor and Chairman Finch will man the table from 10:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.
- Member Small will be there for the Land Trust and will also work at the EDC table if needed.
- The Little League parade starts at 9.
- The table should have info on:
  - Shoreline Chamber
  - SCORE
  - REX
  - Workforce Alliance
  - Farm Trail
  - Walking Trails
- The bulk of the crowd will be present from 8-10 am.
- Liz will make an EDC Commission poster

e. Website

Nothing new to report at this meeting.

Chairman Finch distributed information on Workforce Alliance and gave an overview on an opportunity to businesses for on the job training.

f. Taste of North Branford

Liz reported that she will meet with Jenn McCulloch, there is a potato festival meeting coming up next week. They are still looking into restaurants for better participation this year. Liz felt the format was good, but the goal is to have better marketing to expand the event and add more restaurants.

Councilor Angeloni suggested a different format this year and have it set up as a Taste North Branford and consider having more of a networking event. She felt having tables with information for businesses from various organizations would be more successful rather than a speaker format.

Members discussed the possibility of having tables with information and focus on networking, suggestions were made on eventually making it a shoreline premiere event to showcase North Branford restaurants.

Councilor Angeloni suggested the Shoreline Chamber possibly speak briefly on the advantages of being part of the Chamber.

## 7. New Business

### a. Connecticut Main Street Center

Chairman Finch gave a brief overview of the group, explaining they assist Towns. A representative will be invited to a future meeting to discuss the group in more detail.

### b. Yoga 365, 2081 Middletown avenue, Northford

Kristen Mappa has opened a yoga studio and was looking for a contact with the EDC. Member Caplan will connect with her.

## 8. Committee Reports Discussion

### a. Chamber

Reported by Chamber President Sheri Cote under guests.

### b. Visitation Program

Will be discussed at the next meeting.

### c. Real Estate

Nothing to report at this meeting.

### d. Website

Nothing to report at this meeting.

### e. REX

Councilor Angeloni asked for an overview of REX.

Members gave a brief overview of REX's areas of expertise and reported they have supplied two interns to the town, assisted with the survey and farm brochure, as well as helping with direction in marketing. Additionally, they market internationally and present ways to capitalize on their marketing expertise.

Councilor Angeloni overviewed how the budget has been set up for this year and members gave insight into what is important to the EDC. Members felt a benefit to the EDC would be a coordinator who would also be a grant writer. Members also stressed that the marketing connection with REX continues to be important to the community.

9. Correspondence

No correspondence at this meeting.

10. Adjourn

**MOTION:** Member Kranick moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m., seconded by Member Caplan. With all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso  
EDC Board Clerk