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TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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Agenda

Economic Development Commission
May 7, 2018
Town Manager's Conference Room
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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

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

Non-members present: EDC Coordinator Roger Salway and Town Manager Michael Paulhus

2. Approval of Minutes

a. April 3, 2018

Chairman Finch opened discussion on ways to follow up with tasks discussed at previous meetings. Items discussed for follow up were:

- Town Manager Michael Paulhus will speak to Library Director Lauren Davis regarding a program with SCORE
- Inviting Bob Weidenmann to an EDC meeting
- Potential new RFP for 1599 Foxon

MOTION: Member Tutor moved, seconded by Member Kranick to accept the amended minutes of the April 3, 2018 meeting, stating that Member Angeloni's comments under agenda item 6.a 1599 Foxon Road were a more general statement and did not reflect a specific recent RFP for 1599 Foxon Road. With all in favor, motion passed.

3. Town Councilor Rose Angeloni, Liaison to EDC

Councilor Angeloni was not present.

4. Guests

There were no guests present.

5. Economic Development Coordinator- Roger Salway

New EDC Coordinator Roger Salway gave an overview of his current office as well as a future office in the Town Hall. He overviewed his past week, focusing on his tour of the Town, meetings at the Chamber, Land Trust, Town Council and local realtor Jeff Dow as well as various local businesses. He over viewed upcoming meetings with Connecticut Innovators, as well as Lindy Lee Gold, and the Connecticut Technology Council. He stated he has overviewed the survey and is learning and studying. He hopes to have an outline for the next meeting.

Members discussed potential for the Central Plaza and Roger planning for an upcoming meeting with the owner.

Members suggested Roger also consider meeting Mr. Kevin Geenty and other real estate professional as well as Ginny Kozlowski from REX.

6. Town Manager Michael Paulhus

Town Manager Michael Paulhus reported on 1599 Foxon stating the Council has left options open for proposals for the property. There are potentially two to three developers interested so once the new EDC Coordinator settles in they plan on approaching the developers for meetings.

Members discussed protocol, strategies and next steps for potential interest.

7. Old Business

a. 1599 Foxon Road

Discussed previously under Town Manager's Report

b. Contact with Library Director Lauren Davis regarding SCORE- Scott

Town Manager Michael Paulhus offered to reach out to Lauren Davis.

c. Report on Earth Day- Liz

Member Caplan thanked all members for attending Earth Day and overviewed the day. She anticipates a bigger presence next year, but felt this was a great start. Members discussed ideas for next year to attract additional people.

d. Map Creation - Scott and Chris

Member Small reported the map creation is a small part of what the web page would have. He has spoken with Town Planner Carey Duques, and he acknowledge more work has to be done to get the web page up and running, but stated it is a great start.

Members discussed the importance of the web page being worked on and monitored.

EDC Coordinator Roger Salway gave some insight on web pages and what he envisions for North Branford, stating a web page is an attraction to get people to Town.

Members discussed the additional attraction to other businesses interested in Town.

Town Manager Michael Paulhus will discuss the potential for budgeting funds to get the web site up and running.

e. Taste of North Branford format

Member Caplan overviewed the past years of the event for EDC Coordinator Roger Salway. She reported she has spoken to Jenn McCullough, who believes the event could be a partnership with the Chamber. Members discussed ways to attract all the restaurants in Town.

Member Caplan informed members the date will be Thursday August 2nd this year. There was discussion on a time frame and involvement from all members.

EDC Coordinator Roger Salway will contact Sheri Cote from the Shoreline Chamber to get feedback and interest.

Members discussed the different format but including organizations who might want to have tables and be available for questions or interaction.

Member Caplan will compile a list and reach out to members for help.

f. Invitations to developer interested in 1599

Discussed under Town Manager's report.

8. New Business

a. Plans and expectations for EDC position

EDC Coordinator Roger Salway opened discussion and shared what he envisioned for his work with the EDC:

50% retention and expansion
30% developing new business
20% grant writing.

Members discussed this as realistic expectation. Mr. Salway told members he was open to comments and dialogue and was looking forward to hearing any about any other expectations.

Members discussed the partnership of the Commission and the willingness to share their expertise with the Town with Mr. Salway.

9. Committee Reports Discussion

a. Chamber

discussed previously.

b. Visitation Program

The Visitation Program will begin again soon.

c. Real Estate

Member Krancik distributed current real estate statistics from North Branford to all members. He overviewed the list and explained all information.

Members discussed Town owned property, which Town Planner Carey Duques is working on.

d. Website

discussed previously.

e. REX – Sign up for Workforce Workshops- NewHavenScore.org

Chairman Finch stated there is an upcoming meeting, May 18th.

10. Correspondence

Member Caplan reported she has been trading phone calls with Katherine Smith, and attempting to invite her to an EDC meeting.

Chairman Finch distributed Visit New Haven information to all members.

11. Adjourn

MOTION: Member Caplan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Member Tutor. With all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso
EDC Board Clerk