

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Thursday, January 28, 2010.

Members Present: First Selectman Freda, LuAnn Buono, Thomas Dunham, William Gambardella, Deborah Moore, Frank Maher, Walter Mann, Radha Prasad

Members Absent: Richard LoPresti

MINUTES

After a brief discussion of the Minutes of the Meeting held on September 24, 2009, Ms. Buono moved their acceptance, seconded by Ms. Moore.

VOTE: All in favor.

OVERVIEW – M. FREDA

Mr. Freda said that he has met with commercial real estate agents in North Haven and would like to work with them in a collaborative fashion to present North Haven as a destination to prospective candidates.

Mr. Freda has also met with Mickey Rabina and Sharon Lawrence of Rabina Properties. There has been a lot of interest in the Rabina site. The problem is they can't agree on the price. Mr. Freda said that they are trying to close the gap on the price and hopefully something will happen within the next 18 months. He also said that Rabina will never proceed with the original mixed use project; he will sell it outright, do a collaborative joint venture, or lease the property.

Mr. Freda also mentioned that he is trying to relocate the post office to northern Washington Avenue. He is meeting with the Parese's to look at their property. He has also received suggestions from town residents for vacant properties located on State Street and in the Cricket's shopping center as possible alternatives.

Further discussion followed about various other properties in North Haven.

COMMISSION MEMBER UPDATE

Mr. Freda said that Mr. Nester has resigned from the Commission. Mr. Freda stated that he has received a number of resumes to fill this vacancy and that by our next meeting we will have a new commission member. He also said that our new commission member Mr. Richard LoPresti was unable to attend this month's meeting because of a death in the family.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Gambardella mentioned to Mr. Freda that there is a 130-140 acre parcel available behind Target. It is river front property but has no visibility.

Mr. Mann asked about Valley Service Road. Mr. Freda said that he has a meeting with a company who is interested in the site for a green energy transfer station. It would create about 150 jobs and is not contingent upon Valley Service Road being extended.

Ms. Buono said the Quinnipiac University is announcing today that they will build a medical school at the North Haven Campus. Mr. Freda said that Quinnipiac is a very valuable asset to the Town because it will attract other businesses to North Haven.

Further discussion followed with several commission members asking questions and making suggestions and recommendations.

Mr. Freda then thanked the commission members and said that as we move forward he would like commission members to create opportunities and he will work with them.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for February 25th at 8:15 a.m.

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. Freda moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 AM, seconded by Ms. Buono.