

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Monday, January 31, 2011.

Members Present: First Selectman Freda, Richard LoPresti, Todd DePino, Frank Maher, Radha Prasad, Walter Mann, Stephen F. Darley, Deborah Moore

Members Absent: William Gambardella

MINUTES

After a discussion of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on December 9, 2010, Mr. Freda moved their acceptance, seconded by Ms. Moore.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Maher - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Prasad - Yes	LoPresti - Yes	DePino - Yes
	Darley - Yes	Moore - Yes	

RON PENTON/SAL BONITO – NORTH HAVEN TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Freda welcomed and introduced Mr. Penton and Mr. Bonito to the Commission. Mr. Penton said that the North Haven Trail Association was formed in 2007 and they have been working on establishing a walking trail on the east bank of the Quinnipiac River similar to the trails in Wallingford and Meriden. In order to move forward with the trail, easements need to be obtained from property owners. Most of the land is wetlands and cannot be developed. Unfortunately obtaining these easements is not an easy process. Mr. Penton would like a member of the commission to work with them to bring together the Inland Wetlands Commission and the P&Z Commission to put in place plans or incentives to ease/speed the development of these parcels so that easements can be obtained. Mr. Penton said that he has spoken to our Land Use Administrator Alan Fredricksen who agrees with this concept and said that amendments would have to be made to the regulations. Further discussion followed with commission members asking questions and making suggestions. Ms. Moore said that she would be interested in working on this project. Mr. Freda then assigned Ms. Moore as the Commission’s liaison with the other Town commissions and the Trail Association.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Freda asked for nominations for the position of Chairman. Mr. Mann moved the nomination of Mr. LoPresti as Chairman, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Maher - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Prasad - Yes	LoPresti - Yes	DePino - Yes
	Darley - Yes	Moore - Yes	

Mr. Freda then called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman. Mr. DePino moved the nomination of Mr. Mann as Vice Chairman, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Maher - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Prasad - Yes	LoPresti - Yes	DePino - Yes
	Darley - Yes	Moore - Yes	

Mr. Freda then called for nominations for the position of Secretary; Mr. Prasad moved the nomination of Mr. Maher as Secretary, seconded by Mr. LoPresti.

VOTE:	Freda - Yes	Maher - Yes	Mann - Yes
	Prasad - Yes	LoPresti - Yes	DePino - Yes
	Darley - Yes	Moore - Yes	

Mr. Freda said that he will work collaboratively with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and continue to pursue the projects that he is currently involved in. He said he would like to divide the Town into 4 areas with a list of projects for each area. The goal of the Commission is to have each member pick a project to work on and report back to the Commission.

COMMISSION UPDATE

Mr. LoPresti handed out the Town's Code of Ethics to each commission member. Mr. Freda explained that each town official, commission/board member, and employee is required to sign and return the form acknowledging their receipt, reading and understanding of the Code of Ethics.

Mr. LoPresti contacted Holiday Inn about our Spring Economic Development Breakfast. He said that every Thursday in May is available and asked commission members their preference. Commission members agreed on Thursday, May 19th. Mr. LoPresti said that he will find a sponsor to provide the food. He also said that he would like the theme of the breakfast to be centered on Yale and Quinnipiac University. He would also like to invite Mr. Nick Perna to speak at the breakfast.

M. FREDA UPDATE

Mr. Freda said that he met with Yale last week and they are starting community outreach this week with the Chamber of Commerce. He said that Yale has applied for the certificate of need and Saint Raphael's has sent a letter endorsing it. Yale is very positive and is moving forward with the project.

Mr. Freda met with Quinnipiac University's Dean of the Medical School Bruce Coeppen. Dean Coeppen said that Anthem will be moving out in October and construction will begin on the new medical school. Quinnipiac will not build housing. If a private developer constructs residential buildings, Quinnipiac will recommend it to students.

Mr. Freda said that HH Perkins will be moving into 370 State Street. He is still working with the developer on the Quebecor property.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for February 24, 2011, at 8:15 a.m.

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. Freda moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 AM, seconded by Mr. Darley.