

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

April 28, 2011

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:15 A.M., on Thursday, April 28, 2011.

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

Members Absent: William Gambardella

MINUTES

Chairman LoPresti opened the meeting with a discussion of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on March 24, 2011. Mr. Darley moved their acceptance, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BREAKFAST UPDATE

Mr. LoPresti said that 1,400 invitation letters were sent out to local businesses. The agenda will consist of an update from the First Selectman, followed by Vin Petrini of Yale and Dr. Nicholas Perna of Webster Financial Corporation. The Economic Development Commission will provide the refreshments for the breakfast. The May 12<sup>th</sup> breakfast will begin at 7:30 AM and should conclude by 9:30 AM.

COMMISSION UPDATE

Mr. DePino is working on the blight ordinance and is reviewing ordinances from other towns. He would like to have the ordinance in place by September.

Mr. Freda said that he would like to have the ordinance in place before September and that a Town Meeting will be held between May and September to address this issue.

Mr. LoPresti said that he worked with Alan Fredricksen to address the graffiti on the building located on Washington Avenue. Letters were sent out and the graffiti has been removed. He also said that some work was done by Exit 9 but there are still trees that need to be cut down.

Mr. Maher worked with Jonathan Bodwell to prepare a map that shows various sites in North Haven that are available for development. The Commission went over the properties and made some additions to the map.

Mr. Mann said that he has been working on the details of the Show & Sell which is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>. He still has to check with the high school to see if it is available on that date. He also has set up a meeting with Mr. Freda and Celevon and prepared an informational sheet on the property.

Mr. Darley went to a brownfield workshop in Philadelphia which was sponsored by the EDA. He said it was very interesting and that many projects are being developed for community

gardens and green parks. He said that lenders will not advance money for the cleanup of these brown field properties.

Mr. Prasad said that he would like to be involved with economic development activities on upper Washington Avenue. Mr. LoPresti said that he would contact Mr. Prasad to discuss.

Ms. Moore is working with Ron Penton, Alan Fredricksen and Mike Freda on executing the easements with property owners along the trail.

Mr. LoPresti said that he is meeting with web designers to discuss the creation of a North Haven economic development website for the Town. He will present the Commission with his findings and the Commission will make the decision on which designer to award the contract to.

Mr. LoPresti said that he would like to develop an economic development package to promote North Haven and would like Mr. Darley to assist him.

Further discussion followed.

#### FREDA UPDATE

Mr. Freda said that Yale has completed their community outreach. Yale officials met Mr. Freda and residents on Sherwood Drive. They were able to work out all their issues and the residents were very pleased. Mr. Freda said that the Town will know by July 1<sup>st</sup> if the state has approved the Certificate of Need. If the states rejects its, there will still be a Yale facility (some version) here in North Haven.

Mr. Freda said that Mr. Rabina is currently in China and that he has been trying to get in touch with him to see if he would attend the Economic Development Breakfast.

Mr. Freda will be meeting with Mr. Giordano of Celevon Properties to discuss the possibility of a trash to energy facility. The developer has private backing to build this facility.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for May 26, 2011, at 8:15 a.m.

There being no further business before the Commission Mr.DePino moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 AM, seconded by Mr. Freda.