

Minutes of the Economic Development Commission held at 8:00 A.M., on Thursday, September 22, 2011.

Members Present: Todd DePino, Walter Mann, William Gambardella, Radha Prasad, Richard LoPresti; Frank Maher, Deborah Moore, First Selectman Freda

Members Absent: Stephen F. Darley

MINUTES

Chairman LoPresti opened the meeting with a discussion of the Minutes of the Regular meeting held on August 25, 2011. Mr. Gambardella moved their acceptance, seconded by Mr. Prasad.

VOTE: Mann - Yes DePino - Yes LoPresti -Yes
 Gambardella - Yes Maher - Yes Freda - Yes
 Prasad - Yes

COMMISSION UPDATE

Mr. LoPresti said that he will be meeting with Valerie to discuss the Economic Development website.

Mr. LoPresti informed commission members that the CCM Conference is on October 5th at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. He also said that on October 13th, there is a luncheon at the Omni sponsored by the New Haven Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Freda is receiving the Legislative Leader of the Year Award.

Mr. LoPresti reminded commission members that the Show and Sell is scheduled for October 15th at the North Haven High School. Mr. Mann will be emailing members with items that he needs help on especially with the setup.

Mr. Mann updated the commission on Show and Sell. We currently have 50 business vendors and 3 food vendors. Last year we had 86 vendors, but Mr. Mann said that there are always a lot of last minutes entries. As far as sponsors, we only have eight (8) \$400. sponsorships. Mr. Mann said he would like to put up a banner across Washington Avenue but we first have to check with UI before doing so.

Mr. DePino has had discussions with the P&Z about the blight ordinance. Mr. Freda said that the ordinance will be presented at the Town Meeting and will be voted on.

Mr. Prasad met with Quinnipiac University to discuss the proposed new entrance to the campus. Since Mr. Prasad has knowledge of the facilities, they needed his expertise.

FREDA UPDATE

Mr. Freda informed commission members that there is a possible prominent restaurant that is looking at the old 95 site on State Street.

Mr. Freda said that he should know by Monday, September 26th whether or not the Yale facility has been approved by the State. He said we have a 50/50 chance.

On September 21st, Mr. Freda attended the open house for 297 State Street. He said the building has been updated and looks very nice. There is a possibility of a New Britain company leasing a large portion of the building.

The Circuit Wise property continues to have a lot of activity but nothing has materialized.

Mr. Freda discussed the long term capital improvement plan that he will be presenting at the Town Meeting on September 27th. He said the Town has serious deficiencies in our infrastructure. There are numerous roads that need to be paved, fire houses are out of code and need renovations, and our lease for a public works garage on Grasso Avenue will be expiring and will not be renewed. He would like to bond \$14,000,000 for these various capital improvements. He will discuss this in detail at the Annual Town Meeting and encourage commission members to attend. There will be several public informational meetings and then it will go to referendum.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for October 27, 2011, at 8:15 a.m.

There being no further business before the Commission Mr. DePino moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 AM, seconded by Mr. Prasad.