

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 17, 2009
TOWN HALL – ROOM 1**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Cathy Pompeii, Tom Crotty, Steve Chon, Paul Catalano.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bruce Goldstein, Kevin Burzycki, Jeffery Koonankeil.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Planner Adam Turner, Selectman John Malsbenden, Board of Selectmen Liaison.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pompeii called this Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2009 MEETING

The minutes of the January 20, 2009 Regular Meeting were presented for approval.

Motion by: T. Crotty

to approve the January 20, 2009 meeting minutes as read.

Second by: S. Cohn.

Vote: Unanimous.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were requested.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No citizens were present.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Recommendations for Mixed Use for Settler's Greene

The applicants for Settler's Greene Development have asked this Commission to give a recommendation on the proposal for Settler's Greene.

C. Pompeii and P. Catalano have recused themselves from the discussion, as they are involved with the developers of the project.

The project is slated to include mixed land uses including residential, office, commercial, retail and live/work..

The concept of live/work is to have a unit on the first floor as a business with the condo unit on the second floor for the owner of the business. The mixed use regulation requires that for every 40 units of residential, 40,000 square feet must be developed for commercial, office, or retail use.

A. Turner stated this is the first proposal for Colchester of this particular concept. This project would aid in the revitalization of Lebanon Avenue, sidewalks would be constructed, possibly restaurants, and it is in the vicinity of a large approved subdivision.

T. Crotty, by consensus of this Commission, will send a letter of support from this Commission to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

B. Discussion on Recommendation to join CT Main Street

The fee to join CT Main Street is \$750 with additional fees for materials, research and grant writing. First Selectman Linda Hodge would like this Commission to recommend people to become the Main Street Initiative, or possibly this Commission could take the lead to begin the ball rolling.

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P. Catalano stated the owners of the businesses along Main Street need to be active participants.

T. Crotty suggested a survey letter to the business owners seeking input. P. Catalano will present a draft of questions for the survey for the next meeting.

While there is enough money in the budget for the initial fee, there is no money in the budget for ongoing work with CT Main Street. It was decided not to join at this time.

- C. Discussion on Portland, CT's Economic Community Partnership Program**
Chairman Pompeii recently reviewed some of the items that Portland EDC is doing within their community. Some ideas were to designate a business of the month, helping to promote and recognize businesses. T. Crotty suggested a certificate to recognize the business in some way. P. Catalano suggested having a business submit an application for an award.

Chairman Pompeii will look into the criteria for the partnership program.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Website Redesign

Planner Turner and K. Burzycki have completed their work on the redesign and have submitted the information to the IT department for the website upgrade.

B. Update for the C-Tip Procedures

S. Cohn has completed the update on the tax abatement procedures and it has been submitted to the IT Department.

C. Press Release on Approval of C-Tip

The deadline for the press release regarding the awarding of the C-Tip approval has passed so the article will not be published.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: T. Crotty
to adjourn.

Second by: S. Cohn.

Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Pompeii adjourned this meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Acting Clerk