

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING  
October 18 2011**

**These minutes are subject to the approval of the Economic Development Commission**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Margaret Oliger, Joe Humeston, Walter Motyka, Thomas Murther, Donald Sharpe, Jean Leonard and Joe Tarshis

**ALSO PRESENT:** Elizabeth Stocker, Director of Economic and Community Development and Robert Rau

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Elana Bertram

Ms. Oliger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19 AND 20, 2011**

**Mr. Murtha made a motion to accept the minutes of September 19 and 20, 2011 as amended. Mr. Sharpe seconded the action. The motion carried unanimously**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INVITED GUEST:**

Mike Struna, Advantage Realty gave the Commission a market update.

**REPORTS:**

**Director of Economic & Community Development - Report and Budget Update**

Ms. Stocker's latest Report is attached.

**Round Table Discussion – Ongoing Activities**

Ms. Oliger went through the latest Strategic Plan.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Budget for 2012/2013**

**Mr. Humeston made a motion to accept the Budget for 2012/2013 as prepared by Elizabeth Stocker. Mr Motyka seconded the action. The motion carried unanimously**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Humeston made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Sharpe. The motion was carried unanimously**

Respectfully submitted by Margaret Wilkin, Clerk.

**REPORT BY ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR  
FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
October 2011**

1. **Tech Park:** The ACOE & DEEP permits are in process. Spath Bjorklund (Bill Carboni) is our agent. The monthly ad in the NE REJ has been changed to advertise the Tech Park. The Tech Park and Fairfield Hills continue to be advertised on Loop Net & CERC Site Finder.
2. The November issue of Site Selection Magazine will feature CT with an editorial by Gov. Malloy. <http://www.siteselection.com/promos/1111/MikeG/connecticut.html>. After review it was determined that a 1/3 page full color ad will be placed in this international publication.
3. **EDC web site** updates are ongoing. I will see about getting the enews and the RE Journal editorials into the news section. Nic is almost completed with the sign pamphlets which will be reproduced for distribution (Destination Newtown etc.) and to add to the web site.
4. **Commercial development activity** - The second building at Highland Plaza (22,000 sf) is underway. The final 20,000 sf building at Plaza South is almost completed for Subway, D'Orazio Sisters and a pizza shop. Toll Brothers are close to completing the permitting for the new age restricted community in Hawleyville. The owners of the Simm Lane commercial building and the center at Church Hill and Queen Street came in to talk about their needs to fill their buildings. I offered posting on the EDC's web site via the CERC Site Finder. Our Intern Nic completed an inventory of all available building/site utilizing various sources and the vacant building inventory is very high. I met with the attorney for the Glen Road Auto & Marine and spoke to the Broker to see what can be done to attract investment to the site. Other development meetings included two different prospects interested in solar projects, Fairfield Hills (Danbury Hall area) commercial project with Mike Struna.
5. **Business visits** conducted this month included AFS (with Governor Malloy, First Selectman Llodra and Rep. Chris Lyddy).
6. **Sandy Hook:** the intersection realignment and water line extension are moving forward. The water line extension should be completed and the intersection will move forward when DOT and the utilities determine the timeline. Monthly meetings are held with representatives of SHOP. The next meeting is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>.
7. No word on the \$500,000 **STEAP** application that was submitted in June for the infrastructure/streetscape work at Fairfield Hills. The next round for EPA clean up and assessment grants are due on November 28<sup>th</sup>. A public hearing will be held prior to then to solicit input. The assessment grant will be made available to evaluate key commercial and industrial properties in Newtown which are being targeted for redevelopment.
8. The Naugatuck Valley Corridor Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (NVC CEDS) group achieved its status as an Economic Development District (EDD) this past month. Our quarterly meeting will be this week in Waterbury and we will discuss the regional ranking of projects in our 18 communities. Fairfield Hills continues to be ranked as a tier one

project in the region which keeps the door open for a federal EDA grant. Only thing we need now is a private development at Fairfield Hills that will create jobs.

9. The Western CT CEDS (WC CEDS) group meets tomorrow in Danbury. I will attend.

10. I reserved a ½ table at Destination Newtown scheduled for Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 7pm. Commissioners Humeston, Leonard (who will be displaying as well) and Tarshis have committed to attend to populate the booth. A committee for the display should be formed. I will have the two sign pamphlets and the Commissioner's Sell Sheet available for hand outs. We can also distribute reprints of the Fall Preview editorials. Do you want to get anything else?

10/18/2011 Elizabeth Stocker 203-270-4271