

## TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK

Economic Development Commission

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## EDC Minutes Thursday, December 13, 2012

Present: Lauren Ashe, John DeCristoforo, David Cole, Bruce Greenfield, Jim Keating, Maura Richards, Todd Roberts, Liz Swenson and Wilma Asch. Guest: Jerry Nania

- Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the EDC Office in Town Hall.
- On a motion (Ashe/Cole) the Minutes of November 8, 2012 were accepted.
- Old Business
  - Route One Task Force Jim Keating reported that the Task Force has a contest underway soliciting public input for what to do with the area the EDC calls the Marina District. It was announced in Saybrook Events, there are flyers around town and the High School students have been asked to suggest and promote. There was a flyer in our meeting packet. No one seemed to know about it. There were numerous suggestions: put the flyer on Facebook, have the Chamber put it in their mailers; promote it at the next "Home Business" seminar and others. Commissioner Keating will bring it to the attention of the task force at the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

In addition Jim Keating spoke of the idea of hiring a consultant to assist in the project, two firms are under consideration, John Mullin's firm which the EDC has used in the past and Bartram and Cochran, a Hartford based firm. There was a much discussion and interest on the part of the EDC.

- Rack Cards Liz Swenson reported that we really could use the services of a graphic designer. She knows of a lady in Vermont and Maura Richards knows a local person. They will make contacts and move this project forward.
- Entrance Signs John DeCristoforo reported that the signs are essentially complete and will be installed in the spring.
- New Business
  - Guest Jerry Nania introduced himself and prompted a discussion about EDC activities.
  - Bruce Greenfield reported on the activities of Score for local businesses, particularly the preparation of a business plan. We will invite a speaker from Score early next year.

- Comments from Chairman Roberts were made in the course of the meeting; he emphasized the apparent pickup of business activity.
- Executive Director's Report Wilma distributed her report and emphasized the opening of the Pursuit of Pastry and several new businesses.
- Chairman Roberts adjourned the meeting at 7:55PM and most of the commissioners adjourned to the Red Hen for a holiday gathering.

Respectfully submitted,

Tames D. Kea

James D. Keating - Secretary