

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019, 1:30 P.M.  
NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER, COUNCIL CHAMBER  
3 PRIMROSE STREET, NEWTOWN, CT**

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE ACTION:**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** April 22, 2019

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMERCIAL BROKERS MEETING UPDATE**

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPORT**

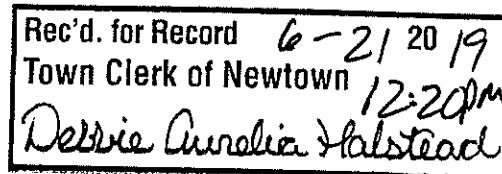
**IDEAS/SUGGESTIONS**

**NEXT MEETING DATE** – August 26, 2019

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dan Rosenthal, First Selectman

*If you plan to attend this meeting and require assisted hearing devices, please contact the Office of The First Selectman at 270-4201 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.*



**Business Advisory Committee  
Regular Meeting, April 22, 2019  
Newtown Municipal Center, Council Chamber  
3 Primrose Street, Newtown**

***MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BUSINESS ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE***

**Present:** Don Droppo, Jr., Curtis Packaging Chris Hottos, Flint Ridge Development; Erica Sullivan, Castle Hill Chocolate; Carrie Swan, Black Swan Hearth & Gift Shop; Bruce Walczak, Relocation Consultants.

**Unable to Attend:** Michele Hanson, Farmhouse Restaurant; Adam Richichi, Dental Associates; Sue Shortt, Shortt's Farm & Garden, Dan Sorrentino, Newtown Hardware.

**Also Present:** First Selectman Daniel Rosenthal, Christal Preszler, Scott Buchanan, Chamber of Commerce, Nancy Crevier, Editor, The Newtown Bee.

First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Bruce Walczak moved to accept the meeting minutes of January 28, 2019. Erica Sullivan seconded. All in favor.

**Chamber of Commerce Report:** Scott Buchanan reported Martini Madness is May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and is typically very well attended and a great local networking opportunity. There is a volunteer fair on May 10<sup>th</sup>. People looking for volunteer opportunities can talk to different non-profits. Small Business Week is coming up; no date yet. The Chamber of Commerce email events, locations, times, with the ability to RSVP.

**Fairfield County Commercial Brokers Meeting Update:** Christal Preszler said that the Fairfield County Commercial Broker meetings are typically held in lower Fairfield county. Newtown is hosting the next meeting on Friday, April 26, at the Edmond Town Hall, to remind them Newtown is also Fairfield County and we would love to have them think of Newtown when looking for space or homes for businesses. Ms. Preszler expects approximately one hundred brokers. The presentation will be linked to the Economic Development web page.

**Heritage Trail Presentation:** Chris Hottos presented the Heritage Park & Trail Concept Proposal (att.). Sandy Hook Organization for Prosperity (S.H.O.P) is a very active organization that is spearheading this project. The Town took ownership of 7 Glen in 2014. The proposal converts this property into a park, including a parking lot, a pavilion and the trail head. Trail markers will display historical narratives and vintage photographs. The proposal includes enhancements to Dayton Street, which will accentuate the park system as well as facilitate the heritage walk. With fundraising the estimated cost of the park & trails will be just over \$112,000. The project will add 28-30 parking spaces. This will make the businesses stronger. There is space for business to grow but the challenge is many of the buildings have to be retrofitted or renovated. The opportunity exists in adaptive re-use and renovation. Zoning is in place to support co-existence of commercial and residential. The river makes Sandy Hook a destination. There has to be a balance between open space and parking. The connection to Al's Trail is an asset.

Rec'd. for Record 4-23 2019  
Town Clerk of Newtown 1:22 pm  
Debbie Annelia Halstead

**Ideas/Suggestions:** The Toddy Hill Road bridge/road construction should be complete in the next several weeks. The exit 11 project has gone to final design. First Selectman Rosenthal will look into flooding in areas of Rte. 25 but said the water tables are high due to the rain cycle since August. Nancy Crevier reminded the business owners to send press releases to The Newtown Bee for any events to go on the calendar, both online and in print. The Lion's Club is spearheading fundraising for scraping and painting the flagpole. Christal Preszler suggested they look into a CT Historic Preservation grant.

**Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is June 24 2019.

**Adjournment:** Having no further business report of Business Advisory Committee adjourned their meeting at 2:30p.m.

Att: Heritage Park & Trail Concept Proposal, Nov. 4, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
*Susan Marcinek*, Clerk pro-tem