



MINUTES

April 16, 2019

Meeting Room 3 - 7:00pm

Present:

Wes Thompson, Nick Roussas, Cramer Owen, Matthew Mihalcik, Jeffrey Robinson, Barbara Snyder (arrived 7:05 p.m.), Christal Preszler – Deputy Director Economic and Community Development, Kim Chiappetta – Economic and Community Development & Fairfield Hills Coordinator (clerk)

Absent: Steve Gogliettino, Al Roznicki, Valerie Fallon

Public Attendance:

Gary MacRae

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Public Participation:

Gary MacRae began by reading the 2019 Fairfield Hills Community Survey poster explaining that every 5 years a committee of local residents are convened by the Board of Selectman to review and recommend changes to the Fairfield Hills Master Plan. He continued to read that the survey is an important part of the process and asked that everyone take this 10 – 12 minute survey. Gary told members of the extensive information gathering done by the Fairfield Hills Master Plan Review Committee and of the two public hearings. The survey is available on-line at www.ffhsurvey.com. Paper copies are also available at the First Selectman's office, CH Booth Library and the Senior Center.

Approval of Minutes:

Matt Mihalcik made a motion to accept the minutes from March 19, 2019. Nick Roussas seconded. Motion passed with all in favor.

Chairman's and Vice Chairman's Reports:

6 Commerce Road:

Vice Chairman Cramer Owen noted that there was nothing new to report regarding the property at 6 Commerce Rd. They are still pending a response to the consultant's letter to DEEP. He will be following-up with George Benson in the next week or two. Matt expressed that it may be time to contact local representatives for assistance with progressing the project. Barbara Snyder told everyone that the site work has begun on the Hubbard Property, but work will be limited because heavy equipment is not permitted to use the temporary bridge. The group then discussed the Hubbard project needing the road through the 6 Commerce property in order to move forward. Wes reminded members that the Hubbards have been granted a right-of-way through the 6 Commerce property.



Miscellaneous cross commission activities:

There were no new updates.

Christal told members that the next Commercial Brokers Association meeting will be on Thursday, April 18th where the new Economic Director of New Milford will be introduced and asked if members could try to attend.

Economic and Community Development - Staff Updates:

3rd Tuesday Business Education series:

Christal reminded members that the EDC is a sponsor of the Chamber's "3rd Tuesday Business Education" series and that tonight's meeting covered the importance of email marketing. Jeffrey Robinson said that this meeting was advertised in the Newtown Bee.

Church Hill Village:

Christal told members she had the opportunity to visit Church Hill Village and that she was provided with documents to promote this new location. Christal described floor plans and noted that there is a single building dedicated to memory care. Barbara added that for a refundable \$500 deposit, you can select the apartment you want before it is completed. Christal highlighted the many large windows that allow a lot of natural light. The community is expected to be completed this fall. Commission members discussed the great location and its walkability to restaurants and stores.

Celebrate Sandy Hook 2019 – Rockin' the Hook concert:

The EDC's *Newtown-Sandy Hook Restaurant Week* is sponsoring "Celebrate Sandy Hook 2019 – Rockin' the Hook" concert. In addition, *Newtown – Sandy Hook Restaurant week* is sponsoring CT Main Street's "2019 Awards of Excellence" where Flint Ridge Development is being awarded for preservation and revitalization of Main St. and Sandy Hook.

Fairfield County Commercial Brokers Network - Meeting Update – 4/26:

Christal reminded members that the Fairfield County Commercial Brokers Network meeting (hosted by the EDC) is on Friday, April 26th. The Committee discussed and assigned preparation and day-of event tasks. The group also reviewed handouts and a video presentation. First Selectman - Dan Rosenthal, will be the key speaker.

Member Comments and General Discussion:

Project Updates, Seminar Attendance, and General Discussion:

Cramer mentioned to everyone that he and Wes discussed the possibility of holding the next EDC meeting at Reverie Brewing Co to provide an opportunity for Committee members to see the business. Go forward the EDC can periodically schedule meetings at various business locations. Christal gave examples of businesses that may have conference rooms available such as manufacturing and golf clubs.

Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose Street
Newtown, CT
www.newtown.org



Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Matt Mihalcik at 8:22 pm and was seconded by Jeffrey Robinson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Chiappetta, Clerk