



MINUTES
TOWN OF TRUMBULL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Helen Plumb Building
Church Hill Road, Trumbull, CT
March 15, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Town of Trumbull Economic Development Commission was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Chairperson Beryl Kaufman.

IN ATTENDANCE: In attendance were the following:

Jim Abraham	Barry Diamond	Beryl Kaufman	Susan Kohn
Susan Kohn	Karl Mizak		

ABSENT: Steve Hodson, Bob Matthews, Jeff Dorfman, Martin Arnold

AGENDA:

- | | | |
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| 1. | Approval of February Meeting Minutes | Beryl Kaufman |
| 2. | Chairperson's Report
- Zoning Regs Meetings | Beryl Kaufman |
| 3. | Director's Report
- Survey
- New Developments/Businesses
- Business Retention
- Main Street Conference Alternate | Deborah Evans Cox |
| 4. | Action Items from Last Month
- May 1 Business Breakfast
- Sponsors
- Flyer
- Invitations, Materials
- Business Showcase
- Schedule
- Registration
- Material | Deborah Evans Cox |
| 5. | Other Business | All |

MEETING MINUTES:

- 1) APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 15, 2007 EDC MEETING MINUTES:
Beryl Kaufman called for approval of the February 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes.
Moved by Jim Abraham, seconded by Susan Kohn to accept the February 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes as presented.
VOTE: Approved unanimously.

- 2) Chairman's Report:
 - Beryl Kaufman reported that Commissioners Bob Matthews, Beryl Kaufman, and Director Deborah Cox were invited to participate in Focus Groups to be held on March 23, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Approximately 50 members of Trumbull commissions, boards, committees, as well as former and current First Selectmen, town Chambers, developers and property owners were invited to give opinions and suggestions to Planning and Zoning and their consultant, as they embark on updating and revising Trumbull's planning and zoning regulations. In addition, a public hearing is scheduled for March 24 at 9:00. Ms. Kaufman and commissioners agreed that they would bring forth the suggestions that have already been made in the past, including the following:
 - Clarify "alternate use" wording on Lindeman Drive
 - Change height restrictions in the IL3 zone
 - Require architectural review
 - Make appropriate changes to the design district on White Plains Road so that it does not unduly or inconsistently prohibit more than two of specified businesses
 - Consideration for a design district on Main Street

All EDC commissioners were encouraged to attend the Saturday morning open forum.

- 3) Director's Report:
 - Deborah Evans Cox has shared the survey results with Westfield Mall, Dinardo Enterprises, Mark Appelberg, and Soundview Development. No responses have been provided by these people as of the date of this meeting. Ms. Cox is meeting with the business owners on White Plains Road to discuss ideas and options for attracting businesses and for updating the area, as this was a common request of residents who responded to the survey.
 - New Developments/Business: The proposed development at 5520 Park Avenue has obtained approval from Wetlands. Neighbors are still concerned with the effects of the site, but Soundview is appears to be addressing these concerns as much as possible.

The New Children's Museum is about to open on Reservoir Avenue. This will be a nice addition to the area.

Two new banks will be moving into the White Plains Road area: Patriots Bank and Fairfield County Bank.

Ms. Cox met with Bowtie Cinemas, the new owners of the theater. They are planning to update the theater, change the food offerings, and add a party room for children.

- Business Retention: Ms. Cox reports that there are now two large businesses that are undergoing analysis in consideration of staying in Trumbull versus moving out of state. This month, she has provided analysis on labor, tax costs and incentives, and building locations. Decisions are being made at headquarter locations in other states for both companies.
- Main Street Initiatives: A workshop entitled, “Visualize Change in Downtown” is being held by the Connecticut Main Street Center on April 27 from 8:30 – 9:00. Karl Mizak has offered to attend the conference. Any other commissioners who wish to attend should inform Ms. Cox for registration information.

4) Action Items from the February 15, 2007 EDC Meeting:

- May 1 Business Breakfast: Deborah Cox
 - Sponsors are still being sought
 - The invitation flyer is drafted and will go out the week of March 26th
 - Materials are being ordered
- Business Showcase, May 16, 2007 at Sacred Heart: Jim Abraham
 - Jim Abraham asked for volunteers to help during the event.
 As a result, the following schedule was created:
 - 10:00 – 12:00 Bob and Jim
 - 12:00 -- 2:00 Sue and Martin
 - 2:00 -- 4:00 Barry and Jeff
 - 4:00 -- 6:00 Beryl and Karl
 - Jeff and Karl will handle set-up and clean-up.
 - Steve will assist where needed

ACTION: Ms. Cox will provide website, schedule, and confirmation of date to commissioners
 Name Tags for Commissioners will be supplied by Ms. Cox
 Raffle items should be secured - Unassigned

5) New Business: None reported

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 18, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. at Town Hall. Beryl Kaufman will chair the meeting due to the anticipated absence of Bob Matthews

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Deborah Evans Cox
 Director, Economic Development