

## ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes  
May 2, 2012 7:15 pm  
Trumbull Town Hall

### I. Attendance

**Commission:** Skip Sather, Gary Bean, Tom Ginis, Beryl Kaufman, Scott Wich, Evelyn Zmary, William Haberlin, Jim Abraham

**Commissioners Absent:** Jack Berg

**Town Staff:** Dan Nelson, Ed Lavernoich, Jamie Bratt

**Public:** one member of the public

### II. Old Business

A. Mr. Sather asked that the April 2012 meeting minutes be looked at by the Commissioners and made a motion to amended them to reflect That Jim Abraham did not abstain and the vote was, 5-0 in favor (Mrs. Zmary abstained, Mr. Bean absent from room for vote due to ZBA appearance) of supporting the Park Avenue project. Also under New Business (A.) that no members of the public came forward to speak on the application. Mr. Wich seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

B. The April minutes reviewed by the Commissioners also added in the amended version that Mr. Wagner reviewed the types of eligible projects and requirements for National Objective. He noted that the Town had a prior grant for renovations to the Senior Center, which was successfully completed. The Town has no other grants or Program Income. The proposed project is to replace the existing elevator in Town Hall as part of an overall plan to improve handicap accessibility. The existing elevator breaks down frequently and is expensive to maintain because of its age and difficulty in getting parts. A new elevator would be installed to meet current safety codes and provide access to citizens and employees without difficulty. Several commission members expressed support for the project. No questions from the public were received, the public hearing was adjourned.

### III. New Business

A. Dan Nelson reviewed the appeals process under Connecticut General Statutes 12-65. It was determined that the right of appeal to businesses denied of a tax abatement by a Town only applies to areas that are officially designated as in need of rehabilitation. Dan Nelson & Ed

Lavernoich will review the current draft of tax abatement ordinance and present any proposed changes to the commission at the next ECD meeting.

- B. Mr. Nelson explained that there has not been any change in the budget and according to the Finance Director there does not need to be a transfer done from the Board of Finance to pay for a speaker at the breakfast.
- C. Mr. Nelson showed a demonstration of Mind Mixer which he had spoken to the commission about at the last meeting. Mind Mixer could be part of the Towns website which allows members of the Community to sign into this and the Town would be able to get feedback from them on different questions that Department Heads can post on there. You cannot be unanimous or be negative in anyway. There were questions on “staff time” and who would be the one that posts the questions and also posts answers to the feedback that people post. The Commission was questioning comparing the size of places used in the demo to the size of a place like Trumbull and how well the site works for different size communities. They also asked about the cost of using a site like this and what the annual fee would be and if there was another company similar to this to look into.
- D. There was an update on Securemark getting ZBA's approval and that the Park Avenue project got the Text Amendment approved. Mrs. Kaufman brought up the two homes on Main Street. They have gone to P&Z and are hoping to put Dr. Offices in the location. It was stated that there has been no activity on the Long Hill property. The space on Route 111 they have been in contact with retailers but have nothing definite yet. Trumbull Centers renovations and empty spaces were also discussed and said that the right tenants can also help tie in with the trail. Lastly Mr. Wich is drafting the letter for P&Z and will send it to the Commissioners to look over.
- E. The Commission discussed the date and different ideas for the breakfast and who would be a good speaker to have. Jim Abraham motioned that the annual business appreciation breakfast meeting be held on either June 14<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> and the topic would be “Trumbull Investing for the Future” with the speakers being Jamie and Ed. Mr. Ginis seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### IV. Adjournment

Of motion by Mr. Sather and seconded by Mr. Ginis the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:06 PM.