

## **Economic & Community Development Commission**

Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 2013 7:15 PM  
Trumbull Town Hall

**Commission:** Chairman Scott Wich, Beryl Kaufman, Ralph Sather, Thomas Ginis, Evelyn Zamarly,  
John Pisinski

**Town Staff:** Economic & Community Development Director Edward Lavernoich

Mr. Wich called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM. He called for a motion on the previous meeting's minutes. Mrs. Kaufman made a motion to approve the February 6, 2013 minutes which was seconded by Mr. Pisinski. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Wich stated that the topic for the Chairman's report was Trumbull Center, explaining that there was a great deal of discussion occurring in town regarding the business closings and vacancies. The commission engaged in a general discussion of recent events involving the Trumbull Center, mentioning the closing of Poricelli's and Marie's, and McKenzie's being sold to CVS Pharmacies. Mr. Lavernoich stated that the property owners have spent several million dollars in renovations, and are working with architects to explore site plan changes to the property. He reported that the office building at 965 White Plains Road would ultimately be demolished to make way for a new retail building that would house CVS and additional storefronts. Mr. Lavernoich also reported that the owner intended to evaluate other existing buildings for demolition and replacement, and that the building that has housed Marie's and McKenzie's was a likely candidate for demolition and replacement. Mr. Lavernoich stated that the property owner had commissioned a number of different versions of possible future site plans and building renderings. There was discussion about inviting the property owner to a future meeting of the commission. Mr. Lavernoich promised to extend the invitation to the property owner on behalf of the commission.

Mr. Wich introduced Anand Katragadda, the creator of the PINGTOWN application. Mr. Katragadda gave a brief explanation of how the application works, and discussed the manner in which Trumbull residents could use it to communicate with each other, and information could be disseminated to groups in Town

The Commission discussed the draft Goals and Strategies document of the Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) that was distributed by Planning & Development Director Jamie Bratt on behalf of the Planning & Zoning Commission. It was discussed that the P&Z Commission was requesting several other boards and commissions to send representation to the P&Z's March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide feedback. Mr. Sather and Mr. Pisinski noted that the document lacked specifics and was generic, not containing much that was specific to Trumbull vs. other suburban towns. It was uniformly agreed that the E&CD Commission should request the opportunity to provide feedback later in the POCD process,

when more specific policies were under consideration. Mr. Wich noted that he planned to attend the P&Z's meeting. Mr. Sather stated that he would try to change his schedule to attend. Noting that the P&Z requested a limit of 3 representatives from the solicited boards and commissions, Mr. Lavernoich stated his intention to attend if no other commissioner desired to attend the meeting. Mr. Lavernoich stated that he would draft a letter with bullet points and circulate it to the Commission for comments and changes, before the letter would be sent to the P&Z Commissioners.

Mr. Lavernoich went over the Directors report and gave a brief update on progress of building projects happening in Town. He also briefly discussed the list of business visits that he and Jamie Bratt had taken.

Mr. Lavernoich and Mr. Ginis spoke about the Database Marketing project that they were working on with Mr. Sather. Mr. Lavernoich passed the internship job description around. He was stated that it seemed more likely that the internship would start in the summer.

Mrs. Zmary stated that she was exploring both Tashua Knolls and the Marriott as possible locations for the Business Appreciation Breakfast. It was decided that the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup> should be explored for the event. The need for a speaker was discussed. Mr. Lavernoich suggested the possibility of inviting someone from Bridgeport Hospital who was involved in the cancer outpatient center project. Mrs. Kaufman asked that the board consider a medical theme for this year's event, given the investments that the medical sector of the economy was making in Trumbull.

Mr. Wich opened up the floor for the nomination of Vice Chairman, noting that no commissioner had expressed interest in the position to-date. Mr. Pisinski, noting that he was the newest to the commission, but eager to help in any way necessary, expressed his willingness to serve as Vice Chairman. There was general encouragement. Mr. Pisinski nominated himself to be Vice Chairman. Mr. Ginis seconded the nomination. The nomination was unanimously approved.

One member of the community was in attendance. He was offered the opportunity to speak, but stated that he had no input.

With no further business, Mrs. Zmary made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Sather. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.