



MINUTES
TOWN OF TRUMBULL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Helen Plumb Building
Church Hill Road, Trumbull, CT
January 18, 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 Bob Matthews.

IN ATTENDANCE: In attendance were the following:

Martin Arnold	Barry Diamond	Steve Hodson	Susan Kohn
Beryl Kaufman	Karl Mizak	Bob Matthews	Deborah Evans Cox

ABSENT: Jim Abraham, Jeff Dorfman

AGENDA:

1. Review and Approval of December 19, 2006 Meeting Minutes Bob Matthews
2. New Commissioner Bob Matthews
3. 2007 Goals/Direction Ray Baldwin, Bob Matthews
4. Director's Report Deborah Evans Cox
 - Marketing Efforts
 - Business Retention Efforts
 - Update on commercial properties
 - United Illuminating New Rates
5. April Business Event Deborah Evans Cox

JANUARY 18, 2007 MEETING MINUTES:

- 1) **APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 19 MINUTES:** Moved by Beryl Kaufman, seconded by Steve Hodson to accept the December 19, 2006 Meeting Minutes as presented.
VOTE: Adopted unanimously.
- 2) **Discussion Item: New Commissioner:**
Bob Matthews introduced Attorney Susan Kohn as the newest member of the Economic Development Commission. Susan is a partner with Mahoney and Kohn in Trumbull and has experience in Real Estate, Family Law, Criminal Law, Civil Litigation, and Probate Law.
- 3) **Discussion Item: Goals/Direction for 2007**

Bob Matthews and Ray Baldwin introduced for discussion the 2007 goals for the Commission:

- Completion of the survey, and a report to be communicated back to the community as well as utilized as a resource in work with developers and retail prospects.
- Development and implementation a complete advertising/marketing program in accordance with operating budgets
- Sponsorship of another business forum in April/May
- Ongoing work of business retention and recruiting on a case by case basis.
- Develop a complete report on available economic development funding with the eventual establishment of one (or more) projects to pursue for enhancing business environment. This might include Town Center
- Provide support and facilitation of resources as appropriate for new and expanding commercial development

- Develop partnership with Westfield for the dual purpose of strengthening their offerings to Trumbull residents as well as encouraging appropriate mall expansion
 - Action items: Bob Matthews will explore opportunities with Anthem to determine whether they may consider moving to Trumbull

4) Deborah Evans Cox highlighted this month's major activities from the Economic Development Office:

- A survey has been launched for Trumbull residents and businesses to help us identify the types of retail and restaurant businesses to pursue. The survey is available on the Trumbull-ct.gov website and was inserted into the January 18 Trumbull Times with a distribution of 7,200 residents.
- Approximately 100 commercial brokers in the north east received a marketing package from the Economic Development Office.
- Two ads were placed in the N.E. Real Estate Journal this month, and Deborah wrote an article that was published in the January 20th issue.
- Some consideration is being given to inviting either U.I. or DPUC to conduct a community forum here in Trumbull for the purpose of explaining the increase and to help the community conserve and save.
- In partnership with the CT Department of Labor and the Economic & Community Development Office, major efforts have been put into business retention as we address a Trumbull-based company's evaluation of continuing to doing business here in Connecticut, versus moving to the state in which their headquarters are located.
- Property update:
 - A 40,000+ sf building is expected to be added to the 5520 Park Avenue space for medical purposes.
 - A new children's museum and preschool has been approved for the corner of Reservoir Avenue and Lindeman Drive .
 - United Healthcare will be consolidating locations and are moving all employees currently located at Corporate drive to their main building on 111.

- 5) April Business Event:
- Action item: Three potential sources of speakers have been identified. Bob Matthews will evaluate one and determine availability and appropriateness
 - Action item: Deborah Evans Cox will select a give-away, identify location, and date
 - Action item: All commissioners will assist in obtaining sponsorship
- 6) Other Business:
- 1) APPROVAL OF REVISED BUDGET: Moved by Steve Hodson, seconded by Beryl Kaufman to accept the December 19, 2006 adoption of revised 2008 budget.
VOTE: Adopted unanimously
 - 2) The commission discussed the proposed regulations regarding home businesses. It was agreed that the Chambers of Commerce would be informed and should be involved in providing input to these regulations.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 7:15 p.m. at Town Hall – Long Hill Room.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Evans Cox
Director, Economic Development