Town of Trumbull
Economic and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2017 7:15 p.m.
Trumbull Town Hall

Being there was no quorum, these notes are for discussion purposes only.

Chairman: Ralph Sather

Present: Commissioners Beryl Kaufman, Evelyn Zamary, Christopher Looram

Director of Economic & Community Development: Rina Bakalar

Public Comment: Shelby Lavino – resident.

Chairman Sather called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. noting that due to lack of a quorum, the minutes will be reviewed at the June 6th meeting.

Ms. Bakalar advised she has a contact who works with the Woman's Business Development Center who is interested in becoming a commissioner. Ms. Bakalar advised she submitted her resume to the First Selectman for consideration and requested if anyone knows of someone who would like to be a commissioner, to please forward their resume (must be a registered voter in Town).

Director's Report

Zoning Regulation Update – An RFP went out and Committee members (Doug Wenz, Ralph Sather, Rob Librandi, Fred Garrity, Rina Bakalar) interviewed four firms. There is a planned follow-up with Goman &York.

The regulation revision process will take approximately one year. The ECDC Commission will be represented by 1-2 members when the revision subcommittee is formed.

Ms. Bakalar informed that the last revision was in 2008 and recommended a complete rewrite, complementing the POCD (April 2014). A partial rewrite may only be feasible due to budgetary restrictions. P&Z will host a kickoff and other Boards and Commissions will be invited to attend.

Long Hill Green Village Planning is out to bid. The $30,000 funding was approved in February. The bid (#6240) is featured on the Town website (Purchasing) and a copy of the requirements were forwarded to Board and Commission members for referrals. Ms. Bakalar also advised she did a request for qualifications. Bid deadline is May 16th by 2 p.m. If anyone would like to be on the review committee for the bids, please let her know or email Chairman Sather. Commissioner Kaufman offered to serve on the review committee. At the end of May, they
will be interviewing candidates.
Marissa's Site – New owners were in this week and have not filed any formal plans. Plans are expected in the late summer, construction early 2018. The owners will be part of the planning process for Long Hill Green area.

Route 111/25 Study Group – The study is moving along and recommendations will be forthcoming. Ms. Bakalar recommends everyone review the study. She will have the link sent out for review.

Town's Owned Sale of Properties – Town will seek to sell 0-5 properties and no deals are in place. Brokers will be selected over the next several weeks. A list of parties who have expressed interest in properties over the past several weeks will be turned over to brokers.
The Town will request that each interested party be contacted in addition to their marketing efforts. The Town will pursue deals only if the development is compatible with the area. Potential sale will go through P&Z and Town Council approval and the Town will control redevelopment of the site. Ms. Bakalar informed that appraisals have been completed along with Phase I Environmentals. Title searches are clear and no property will be sold without proper and fair relocation of existing uses if any.

Community Center – If $15 Million or more, it will go to referendum otherwise to Town Council. Ms. Bakalar supports the project noting it connects recreational, social, cultural and civic aspects and would be a tremendous asset for the Town. She also indicated that it would minimally impact taxes. Chairman Sather suggested the Commission take a position and inform the public of the Commissions' opinion suggesting a letter to the editor. Commissioner Looram asked for some additional information on costs (capital and operating) for the Commission discussion. Ms. Bakalar advised there will be an open discussion at our June meeting. She also noted that there are two upcoming public forum's (May 3 – Senior Center) and at Trumbull High School (May 10th.)

Grant for Trail – When there is final approval for the funding, she will advise the Commission. The project has been green lighted. Ms. Bakalar is meeting with the MetroCog to determine final funding structure.

Electronic Newsletter – Will go out the end of June and Ms. Bakalar hopes to have a definite date for the Annual Business Appreciation Breakfast in October (10/9 or 10/30). Other speakers or a panel discussion will be considered if we are unable to get Linda McMahon. The Business Education Initiative will contribute to the agenda encouraging business to get involved in support of the students.

Video - is moving along – There were tapings of Mr. Scinto at Cooper Surgical, and taping of Mr. Bill Jennings, Bridgeport Hospital is forth coming.

Tax Abatement Ordinance – Some of the language was revised at last night's Town Council meeting. One business and a one housing project are submitting their applications and the Committee will meet late May/early June.

Marketing & Communications Plan – Ms. Bakalar will start working on the plan, assisted by Mike Iaccarino and asked if anyone else would be interested. Mr. Sather expressed interest in assisting.

CERC – Ms. Bakalar will have a conference call on May 5th with CERC to discuss a June meeting for Board & Commission members on Place Making – (what it means to do place making, economic development, village development and best practices).

There being no further business or community input, Chairman Sather adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m., and noted the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 in the Long Hill Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Andreyka
Clerk

cc: D. Wenz
R. Librandi