**Town of Trumbull**
**Economic and Community Development Commission**
**Meeting Minutes**
**September 5, 2017 - 7:15 p.m.**
**Trumbull Town Hall**

Chairman: Ralph Sather

Present: Vice Chairman - Commissioners Evelyn Zamary, Eric Michel, Christopher Looram, Mike Iaccarino, Mark Smith, Shelby LeVino

Director of Economic & Community Development: Rina Bakalar

Public: Trumbull Resident - Paul Griffith

A quorum being present, Chairman Sather called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. He introduced the new commissioner, Shelby LeVino, a Product Manager for WebMD and pedestrian advocate. The Commissioners then introduced themselves and shared their backgrounds.

Chairman Sather made a motion to approve the August 1, 2017 meeting minutes. Ms. Zamary accepted the motion, seconded by Mr. Iaccarino and it was unanimously approved by the Commission.

## Director's Report

### Planning Update- Long Hill Green Public Kick-off, October 5th (BOE Administrative Building)

Ms. Bakalar noted that the Long Hill Green planning process is moving forward and thanked Ms. Kaufman for her involvement in consultant selection. Ms. Bakalar advised a meeting was held with internal staff and the next meeting is scheduled for September 18th at Layla's to consider feedback from Long Hill Green businesses and employees.

A Community Kick-Off meeting has been scheduled for October 5th. Ms. Bakalar requested the Commission forward meeting information to anyone who may be interested and noted this information is also posted on the town website as well as Facebook. Attendees will be advised of the planning process, the deliverables of the plan and will be encouraged to share their ideas for traffic and safety, aesthetics, signage, parking, tree scape and sidewalks. An "open house" format is also planned at Long Hill Green – date to be determined. Designers will be there to meet individuals on a one-to-one basis every 15 minutes to explore their ideas.

Regulation Revision Progress

Subcommittees are in the process of being formed. Don Poland (Consultant) and Rob Librandi (Land Use Planner) will be meeting to determine the subcommittee dates and 2 candidates from our Commission will serve. A public meeting will be held the end of September. Ms. Bakalar also announced there has also been a number of stakeholder group meetings (commercial brokers, realtors, property owners, internal staff, land use professionals).

The Housing Choice plan is underway. Ms. Bakalar commented that the State affordable housing legislation was amended this session and advised that communities who have a housing choice plan can earn points towards a future moratorium. Malone & McBroom, consultants, conducted a scan of the town to determine what plots or areas of town would be appropriate for different type of housing choices (affordable, senior housing, etc). Ms. Bakalar then commented on an article in the Danbury News Times, where Joe McGee -V.P. of Fairfield County Business Council advised the need to build housing next to transit and amenities to keep suburbs growing. She also noted that from a planning perspective, our consultants identified 10 spots in town to access possible usage.

Business Update – Ms. Bakalar received a number of inquiries regarding 965 White Plains Road. The building is currently empty and approvals from P&Z for redevelopment were granted last August. With CVS staff transitions and negotiations finalized, the project is moving forward and DOT is also involved. CVS will move across the street along with Starbucks and the site will include new retail space. The building next to Newtown Savings Bank will be demolished at some point in the future which will open up that plaza.

The Mall – Ms. Bakalar will meet with the Mall on 9/28 to discuss phase development.

Oakview – There is interest to locate a 60,000 sq. ft. veterinary hospital across the street. The owner, a well-known advocate that has taken on the pet vaccination industry for over vaccinating, is currently located in Norwalk. He is considering the corner of Oakview & 7 Cambridge and applied to Planning & Zoning for a zone change. Ms. Bakalar noted that when construction on Oakview is complete, the developer will undertake all maintenance of esplanades on Lindeman Drive for the Town.

Two businesses will be relocating from Monroe (a computer and alarm company).

Looplink has been added to our home and our Economic & Commission Development page. It lists commercial properties for sale or lease and interested parties will be able to contact the broker.

Insurelinks - a new insurance company - is opening at the Long Hill Green and the ribbon cutting will be held on October 19th at 10:00 a.m.

Marissa's – Our Long Hill Green consultant, Stantec, met with the purchasers and engineer for the project. The new owners will be meeting with Planning & Zoning in September to request a zone change. The site will be business/commercial/retail development. There will also be a key emphasis on sidewalk connections and landscaping. Governor's Ridge will also contribute suggestions. We are looking at poles and utilities and will be meeting with Frontier and UI.

Trumbull Center - Ms. Bakalar resubmitted the Boulevard Study request.

Trail Update – The leg of the trail progressing into Bridgeport will be completed in December and the Trumbull Center leg will begin in Spring. Both are financed. The trail head across the street is up for debate. The grant went into a funding source TAP (Transportation Alternative Program) but the project was moved to LOTCIP and we are requesting a larger amount. MetroCog approved the grant in June. It is up at the State for review. Ms. Bakalar commented that the trailhead is a perfect mid-point location, and compliments the POCD. She noted the project passed in a bi-partisan vote last year.

Due to neighborhood opposition, we are trying not to install more parking by Tait Road. We will continue to promote the Old Mine parking but more trail heads and parking are needed. The LOTCIP funded trailhead will have bike racks, bench, rain garden – full storm water system, two round rest/seating areas.

Visitor's Center - There was a meeting with the neighborhood and strong opposition regarding a Visitors Center that was unmanned and additional parking was voiced. We did not reapply for a grant at this time as a result.

The Helen Plumb building was repainted.

**Discussion of Business Appreciation Breakfast**

The Breakfast will be held on October 30th from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. and invitations will go out shortly. Linda McMahon is unavailable and Jason Broadwater has been chosen as the keynote speaker. Mr. Broadwater lectures nationally with a focus on changes that are happening to smaller towns, re-urbanization, how technology use is driving change in businesses, socializing, and what people seek in their community.

The Business Education Initiative will also have a time slot to explain their role in the community and distribute handouts.

Small Business Success and Corporate Success Awards Nominations – Ms. Bakalar passed out the applications and said she will also be distributing them to the Trumbull Chamber and all Boards and Commissions for nominations.

Boards & Commissions Dinner – The Boards & Commissions Dinner will be held at Vazzy's on October 16th from 6:30 -8:30 p.m.

Ms. Bakalar announced that September 23rd is Trumbull Day at the Beardsley Zoo and Trumbull residents will be charged $5.00.

Opportunity for Community Input

There being no further business, Chairman Sather requested a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., accepted by Ms. Kaufman, seconded by Mr. Smith and voted in favor unanimously by the Commission. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 in the Long Hill Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Andreyka
Clerk