

**Town of Seymour  
Economic Development Commission**

**Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2013 – 6:30 PM  
Flaherty Room – Seymour Town Hall**

Members present: Jon Szuch, Michael Horbal, Rosalie Averill, Ted Holly and Ron Balabon

Members absent: Marietta Sabetta, Kathleen Conroy-Cass.

Also present: Fred Messore, Economic Development Director, Maryanne DeTullio, Recording Secretary

**ITEM #1 Call Meeting to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Jon Szuch.

**ITEM #2 Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Jon Szuch.

**ITEM #3 First Selectman Comments**

First Selectman Kurt Miller was not in attendance at the meeting.

**ITEM #4 Public Comments**

There was no one from the public present at the meeting.

**ITEM #5 Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2013**

Mrs. Averill stated that her comment in the minutes regarding the Building Committee should have been that the Committee did not digest the report from Planimetrics regarding town hall and where it should be located. Mr. Messore stated that the recommendation from the Committee is to move the Board of Education offices to the current town hall building. Mr. Messore also stated that the Committee looked at a lot of different scenarios regarding the buildings that they reviewed. Mr. Holly moved to accept the minutes with the noted correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Balabon and carried 4-0-1 with Mrs. Averill abstaining.

**ITEM #6 Economic Development Director's Report(s) – Fred Messore**

Mr. Messore presented his report for January, 2013. He stated that he spoke with Matt Vail from ConnDOT and there will be a public meeting to discuss the proposed work at the Routes 188/34 rotary. Mr. Messore stated that he spoke with Mr. Vail about having Welcome to Seymour signs at this location. The rotary will now be an elevated roundabout and there should not be any issue with the sign blocking sightlines.

Mr. Messore also gave an update on the intersection at CVS/Derby Avenue and Church Street near the Historical Society. He spoke with the town engineer about this and also VCOG. Mr. Szuch stated that the intersection that has the back up and problems is at the corner of Church Street, West Church Street and West Street.

Mr. Messore stated that VCOG has an accident reduction program but he was not sure if it applies to town roads. He will also get information from Chief Metzler on the number of accidents at this location.

Mr. Messore stated that he met with the family that owns Seymour Lumber and they are working on getting the tenant out of the property. He also stated that he gave them a copy of a Phase 1 survey that was done. Mr. Horbal asked what the survey revealed and Mr. Messore stated that the conclusion was that it did not require any further study. There were some areas covered with debris and they could not see what was in those areas. He felt that it would be helpful to them in marketing the site. He stated that the family was receptive at the meeting and he suggested to them that it would be better to market if it was a clean site.

Mr. Horbal stated that a Phase 1 study was done of the Pine Street lot as part of the Skate Park Committee and that study recommended that a Phase II study be done.

**ITEM #7 – Continue discussion on proposed 2013 project concepts**

Mr. Szuch noted that there is approximately \$1,300.00 in the EDC budget and \$16,000.00 in the Economic Development Department budget. The Commission discussed the possibility of giving some funds to the Downtown Committee to start their projects. Mr. Szuch stated that an inventory of the banners that the Town has was done. Mr. Messore stated that he is working on the streetscape grant and would like to incorporate banners with that grant. He asked if the Downtown Committee looked at the mapping of the downtown parking. He felt that the banners and mapping were good projects for the Downtown Committee to undertake. Mr. Horbal suggested having a joint meeting with the Downtown Committee, Cultural and Arts Committee and this Commission. He felt that it would be beneficial to have them all work together on the downtown area.

Mr. Messore stated that the downtown merchants feel that the area has improved a little with clean up but things are still lacking. Mr. Szuch suggested that a letter could be sent to the Director of Public Works about what the schedule is regarding the cleaning of the downtown area and who is responsible for that. Mr. Messore stated that he will send an e-mail to the Director of Public Works and the First Selectman that it is a concern of the EDC, the Downtown Committee and the Merchants Committee about the condition of the downtown area. He stated that he will also indicate that there was a recommendation in the Planimetrics report that there be a dedicated employee for the downtown area.

Mr. Messore felt that the maps of the downtown area and parking should be a priority. Mr. Balabon stated that the map could be placed on the website so someone coming to an event could print it out. Mr. Messore also brought up the issue of having a mural painted on the side of the Strand Theater. He felt that it could be a historical depiction of the downtown area.

ITEM #9 – Old Business

Mrs. Averill asked about the housing study that was discussed at the last meeting and what kind of a study it would be. Mr. Messoré stated that the study was something that he spoke with Bob Looker, Town Planner about. He stated that it would be about future housing needs.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Holly, seconded by Mrs. Averill and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne DeTullio