

*SEYMOUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2008
7P.M.*

Members Present: Jon Szuch, Ron Balabon, Rosalie Averill, Michael Horbal, Marietta Sabetta

Others Present: Al Yagovanne, Phil Orzietti, Olivia Ramos, Angela Chernovetz, Maryann Pelagrun and Tami Ravis.

Absent: Joe Cass, Ted Holly

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes of the June, 02, 2008 meeting, Motion by Roasalie, second by Marietta. In favor: Szuch, Averill, Sabetta, Abstain: Balabon & Horbal

Representatives from downtown merchants requested partial funding for a billboard that merchants are leasing above the Fallview Apartments. Billboard will highlight the number of businesses and restaurants that are located downtown. A concept design was shared. Several suggestions were shared with the merchants by EDC members. The cost for a twelve month contract is \$650 per month. A motion was made by Rosalie to fund \$650 for the first month's rent, from the advertising line item, with the condition that downtown merchant website address be included on the billboard within six months, with a link to the town website. Second by Ron. All in favor.

Director's report for the month: Updated EDC on New Haven Copper, Olin will consider any offers for the property. They are currently removing equipment from the site. Housatonic Wire is negotiating with two developers. Second prospective car wash has fallen through. Met with property owner at Silvermine and Rte 67 to discuss possible use of the parcel. Admin. Asst. attended Brownfield workshop, with a one on one meeting with DEP in July. Also spoke with website and marketing companies to solicit proposals for an EDC website and professional town brochures. Haynes Corp. still negotiating with a commercial realtor regarding Silvermine property. Working on Enterprise Corridor Zone paperwork with Basement System. Downtown merchant meeting was held on June 26th.

Al Yagovanne was present to discuss improvements to Broad Street Park. Al was advised to solicit detailed quotes for the project and compile a concept plan with as much detail as possible. Once obtained Al can return to EDC and the Commission can move to provide an exact amount of money. Also, State DOT approval is going to be needed.

Discussed DARP-Derby Avenue Revitalization Project. There is no plan on paper, however, ED Director should solicit planning companies to submit proposals or present to the EDC regarding a study of the Derby Avenue corridor. Any plan should include Tri-Town and Haynes properties as well. This is a long term project, seven to ten years. It was also suggested that Yale School of Architecture be contacted.

New Haven Copper Main St. parking lot should be pursued as town parking. Improvements need to be made to that lot as well, as the retaining wall is in disrepair.

The only agenda item for the August meeting is the next EDC public questionnaire, which should be ten questions. Discussion followed as to whether or not it should be conducted online or via U.S. Mail

Brief discussion regarding EDC video update. Item should be placed on the Sept. EDC meeting agenda.

Discussion followed regarding relevant issues facing the Town, including the charter revision commission and the Baker Residential condo proposal. Also, members were informed of a Beacon Falls developer planning to build a large scale retail/office and residential development, which included the town swapping 53 acres of land to move the project forward. Seymour also has large scale project as well, Rte. 67 & 42 connector.

Motion to adjourn at 8:43p.m. by Rosalie, second Ron. All in favor.

Submitted by

John Criscuolo,
Economic Development Director