

**Master Economic Development Plan
Transition Team**

Thursday, February 28, 2007 @ 7:30 P.M. Town Hall/Norma Drummer Room

parcels, from the site development inventory discussed below, to identify issues, challenges and opportunities

Finalize site development inventory database and deliver to ED Director. This particular work product will be finalized at the next MEDP Transition Team meeting on March 20, 2008.

Assist in New Haven Copper ED efforts as necessary / required. To the extent required, and based on information that the ED Director gains from expected discussions with Olin in the next few weeks, the Team will assist in any efforts to move forward on re-development of this site.

Develop “Downtown” promotional package. This topic will be discussed further at the March 20, 2008 meeting when all members are present, in an effort to gain consensus on the nature and content of this package.

Participate with EDC, ED Director and Government Officials in defining “go forward” structure. This task was pushed out for several months, in order to allow time to assess the results and operation of the current structure now that an ED Director is in place.

Item # 5– Set Agenda and Work Plan for Next Meeting

The primary topics for the next meeting will include finalization of the Site Inventory; discussion of the Downtown Promotional Package; and any updates on New Haven Copper and the Joint Economic Development Workshop meeting.

Item # 6 – Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:45 P.M.

Motion: K. Robinson Second: R Balabon

Vote: 4-Yes 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualify

Respectfully Submitted By

John Conroy, Jr.
Chairman

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ATTACHMENT

----- Original Message -----

From: Robin Imbrogno

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2008 9:25 AM

Subject: EDC Transition Meeting 2/28/08

John, I shared a few weeks ago, that we have a family commitment this evening and as a result, I will not be able to attend. I did however review several of the PCD's from other towns, specifically, Bethel, Milford and Shelton. A few things I focused on:

- 1) I thought having all Economic Development Objectives (with related plans and proposed actions) in one place – is very helpful. It would share with both the community and the “outside world” our perspective and goal. I see these as living doc's which would require maintenance and annual review. With a professional managing the process, this would be possible, however, I am sure a time consuming task.
- 2) I particularly focused in Bethel, on the plan for “downtown” – the plan described in soft terms (words like encourage and enhance) what the town would like to see for the future. This type of approach – with detailed plans of objectives could be a terrific review for us to determine what we can or would like to do downtown. Specifically, this section refers to Connecticut Statues for Villages (would this apply to us? Are there other statues that do? Are these goals or requirements?) Either way, I thought it is imperative that we have a detailed set of goals for the downtown area. I saw Bethel's plan as an enhanced or extension of what we started with Mount Auburn. Is this something John would develop? With the EDC? Or additional town (public forum) support? Who approves it?
- 3) When reviewing Milford's plan – I saw a very different approach. I viewed the doc developed by Bethel as a proposition – with goals and objectives, but more community focused. It was obvious in Milford's plan that it was a “city” – the focus was more matter of fact (though they can be more matter of fact!) more business oriented and practical. I saw Seymour more closely aligned (in terms of goals and objectives) to a Bethel – even though we are vastly different. I couldn't find those alliances in the Milford plans.
- 4) Shelton's SWOT doc was more or less what we went through last year. It is obvious they can focus on the “light” stuff as all the heavy lifting for them is done – and their future is based on maintenance. (Obviously this is minimized, but I see us pretty far behind them in the curve!)
- 5) Finally, somehow I would love to see us capitalize more on the Enterprise Zones – whether links to the CT website (from our Town Website) or other marketing approaches, but somehow we need to get out the word, especially in today's economy – it makes sense to come to Seymour and grow your business here.