

October 3, 2013

To: East Haddam Economic Development Commission  
From: Peter Simmons

Subj: Economic Development Progress Report #20 – September 2013

1. Business Development
  - a. Transfer Station: NSTR
  - b. 385 Town Street, LLC and tax incentive program benefits: continued efforts to bring benefit package for NEPS to a closing.
  - c. Assisted 32 Main Street with local approvals for their opening. Opened for business on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. Continued efforts to assist an out-of-town business to relocate its operations into town (name withheld).
  - e. Coordinating with a site selector for a potential new medical center in Town.
2. Business Outreach
  - a. Arranged Town Business meeting with DECD regarding business interruption assistance for Norwich Road closure. Meeting set for Tuesday, October 8 at 2 PM at the Grange Hall.
3. Grant Activity and Contract Coordination Priorities
  - a. \$431,200 STEAP grant for Community Agriculture Center
    - i. Approved Assistance Agreement (contract) received from DECD on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Town authorized to start project
    - ii. Drafted RFP for architectural services to prepare the construction documents
    - iii. Coordinating activities with Town Facilities, Land use, Building, Fire Marshal, CHD, First Selectman and Agriculture Commission
    - iv. Prepared the Summary Business Plan for the Center; prepared revision to response to Board of Finance comments.
  - b. \$20,000 CT Dept of Ag Farmland Restoration Fencing Grant
    - i. Met with Connecticut River Coastline Conservation District staff on 10/2 regarding the site and conservation plan
    - ii. Accompanied 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman to USDA Farm Service Bureau meeting to register the Harris Farm.
    - iii. Fence bid
      1. Fence bid awarded to Middletown company
      2. Installation start around November 1<sup>st</sup>.
      3. Approximate 2-week installation schedule.
    - iv. Site visit with Dept of Agriculture Officials to be arranged.
4. Other
  - a. Assisted Selectman's Office in coordinating with Cumberland Farms Corporate Headquarters for action in correcting the blighting influence that their abandoned store is having in the south end of Moodus.
  - b. (EDC Agenda item) Purchasing Town membership in CERC's SiteFinder Commercial Real Estate System (\$550 full membership). Will be adding properties to the CERC database.