

NEWINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL
131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT
CONFERENCE ROOM L-101 LOWER LEVEL TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012
7:00 P.M.

I. MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman James Marocchini
Commissioner David Marsden
Commissioner Gregory Polk
Commissioner Fernando Rosa
Commissioner Thomas Shields
Commissioner Linda Woods
 " PAUL VESSELLA
Absent

Commissioner Mark Mnich

Also present:

Economic Development Director
Andrew Brecher

II. MEETING MINUTES - September 5, 2012

Commissioner Rosa made a motion to accept the September 5, 2012 minutes and Commissioner Vesella seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Status Report on CTfastrak presented by Mr. Michael Sanders, Administrator Ct. Fastrak

Mr. Sanders summarized the history of the Connecticut transit system beginning in 1999 as a need to developing regional mobility due to statewide transit congestion. His talk was accompanied by several program overviews and maps, emphasizing the route between New Britain and Hartford express services. This project began in May, 2012 and is 1/6th completed with a target date of October, 2014.

Mr. Sanders introduced the members of his team, including Quest Consulting. The fare for CTfastrak is set at \$1.30 with affordable discounts for Seniors/Disabled patrons. Economic Development Director Andrew Brecher voiced concern for providing more parking spaces at the Newington station, including the former Welding site. Mr. Sanders added that there would be 250 parking spaces available at the CCSU campus.

Voicing their concerns were Carol Anest, Rose Lyons and Mady Kenny, suggesting that a power point meeting in Council Chambers would address all of the questions by Newington residents.

Mr. Brecher thanked Mr. Sanders, administrator for Ct. Fastrack, and his team for their very comprehensive presentation.

B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2013

Commissioner Rosa made a motion to elect James Marocchini as Chairman of the Economic Development Commission. Commissioner Shields seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Marocchini made a motion to elect Thomas Shields as Vice-Chairman of the Economic Development Commission. Commissioner Rosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Shields made a motion to elect Gregory Polk as Secretary of the Economic Development Commission. Commissioner Rosa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. SETTING 2013 COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Commissioner Shields made a motion to accept the 2013 meeting dates with a second motion made by Commissioner Marsden. The motion passed unanimously.

D. EDC DISTRICTS

Chairman Marocchini said that maps will be distributed to the Economic Development members at the next meeting noting their assigned territories with an opening available at District #7. Director Brecher added that the commissioners are the "eyes and ears" of Newington and that e-mails would be appreciated as very useful information for the town's inventory. Commissioner Polk also suggested supplying business cards for the commissioners.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Market Square Streetscape

Chairman Marocchini reported that there are still a few punch list items that have to be completed for the Market Square streetscape.

B. Directory Signage for Constitution Square/Market Square

A packet depicting eight signs in total were passed to the members assigning Bianca to install the signs. The total cost will be \$11,900.00, including installation. At the suggestion of Commissioner Marsden, Mr. Brecher will confer with Jeff Baron to be sure this commission is receiving the lowest responsible bidder.. Therefore, Commissioner Rosa made a motion to present this Directory Signage for Constitution Square/Market Square to the town manager for approval. Commissioner Vesella seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Rose Lyons thanked the commission for having Ct. Fastrack's fine presentation and encouraged that funding be provided for the much needed signage for Constitution Square and Market Square, including Exit signs for which she provided a sample copy.

VII. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Brecher reported, along with his screen presentation a summary of the National Welding site, including the amount of two millions dollars still needed to abate the site. Mr. Brecher had a meeting today with the DOT commissioner to encourage support for this project and the DOT will deed a new road to Newington for this site.. The good news was that Mr. Brecher presented a proposal that was received from a potential developer, a multinational company with an office in Glastonbury. There is also \$15,000 available for contracting a consultant for the Newington junction area. In addition, there will be a two day session meeting planned centered around transoriented development and two members from this commission will attend on December 12, 2012 and December 13, 2012.

Mr. Brecher announced his efforts on the Northwood Plaza are bearing fruit, especially with the likelihood of a possible catastrophe event impending due to the neglected condition of the property - the time is right now to see positive action with a possible sale. Mr. Brecher will keep this body informed of any new developments.

Also, Mr. Brecher reported that the former Applyby's may have a new occupant.

Mr. Brecher said that the former Krispy Kreme property will be occupied by an urgent care facility. An eatery, Bone Fish, will take over the parking area.

Mr. Brecher was able to find 20,000 SF for a manufactuer at one of the Industrial Parks.

The former Fafnir building has now been occupied by a food distributor with 280 employees.

VIII. REMARKS BY COMMISSIONERS

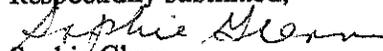
Commissioner Rosa related that his endeavors resulted in a manufacturing company being established on Pane Road.

Commissioner Marsden announced that the Black Rose Tavern will have a dinner this Thursday to benefit the food bank.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Rosa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Polk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Sophie Glenn
Recording Secretary