



**Town of New Fairfield  
4 Brush Hill Road  
New Fairfield, Connecticut**



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Myke Furhman, Kathleen DiTullio, Greg Manning, Mark Werner, Evan White, Zoning Officer

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Mr. Furhman.

**Approval of Minutes – July 18, 2022**

*Mr. Furhman moved to approve the minutes of July 18, 2022, seconded by Ms. DiTullio and passed unanimously.*

**Opening Public Comment & Participation**

There was none.

**Correspondence & Announcements**

Mr. Furhman said there are some new businesses coming to New Fairfield including a bubble tea shop and a boat wrapping business. Mr. White said there is also a financial software consulting firm and a barber shop that have been approved by Zoning. Mr. Furhman said they should discuss a grand opening event and Mr. White said he had spoken to the bubble shop about that.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Beautification Project – Signs Update**

Mr. Manning said the struggle to get signs up continues as he talked with the Director of Public Works and his sign person is unable to make the signs EDC is looking for. Mr. Manning asked if anyone had suggestions for a sign company and some were offered.

**EDC Commission Participation in upcoming New Fairfield Events**

James Kloos has been spearheading the EDC participation in the New Fairfield Days in September. Mr. Furhman said he would touch base with him to see if a special meeting would be needed to discuss further.

Mr. Furhman said he would like to start a discussion about this year's Carol Sing in December and wants to get more vendors, sponsors and food trucks involved. The light parade and Santa's workshop will be November 26<sup>th</sup> so perhaps this event could be held December 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. DiTullio said she would reach out to the choral singers to determine their availability. Mr. Manning said he would start reaching out to potential sponsors.

**ARPA Funding Update/Small Business Grants**

Mr. Furhman said this now awaits a Town Meeting vote so there is no need for discussion at this meeting.

**Signage at High School - DiTullio**

Ms. DiTullio said she is awaiting the business directional signage update before pursuing the high school signage project.

### **Business Happy Hour Event**

Ms. DiTullio said she and Mr. Kloos went to Portofino's to discuss the event but the owner was not in that day. Mr. Kloos went back and she thought he had arranged for the event but was not entirely sure. She said the next step is to get invitations out if the event is confirmed.

### **Pop Up New Fairfield – Library Event**

Mr. Furhman said possibly the carol sing could be a Pop Up New Fairfield Christmas shopping event.

### **Adopt a Spot – DiTullio**

Ms. DiTullio said she had spoken to Selectwoman Khris Hall and she had asked for a write up about the program so the Board of Selectmen could consider options.

### **Community Outreach Committee – Planning and Zoning Liaisons**

Ms. DiTullio suggested that EDC members should follow the Zoning and Planning meetings and report back any items of interest to EDC. She noted Zoning is working on updating their regulations and Planning will be working on their Plan of Development.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **New and Prospective Businesses**

Mr. White said there is a purchaser of Candlewood Isles Marina and the owners have plans including a convenience store, leasing offices, a luxury estate room that they are working with Zoning on.

#### **Housing Opportunities Committee - DiTullio**

Ms. DiTullio said the State has asked each Town to form a plan for affordable housing and New Fairfield has called their committee the Housing Opportunities Committee. She said they are looking at elderly rental housing and ways to help people who volunteer for the Fire Department, for instance, can afford to live in Town. She said the Committee is looking for community input as to what they want to see happen.

#### **Closing Public Comment**

Mr. Furhman said he will reach out to the Committee if there is a need for a special meeting before New Fairfield Days and the Happy Hour event.

#### **Adjournment**

*Mr. Furhman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 pm, seconded by Mr. Werner and passed unanimously.*

Minutes recorded by:



Recording Secretary

Received by email on 08/19/2022 @ 8:30 a.m.  
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield