



Town of New Fairfield
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, Connecticut
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING NOTES
Monday, September 16, 2024



Present: Mark Werner
Michael Kiviat
Kathleen DiTullio

There being no quorum the meeting opened at 7:10 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence and Announcements

Mr. Werner said there would be a town meeting Tuesday, September 17th to discuss several items including reallocating the business assistance ARPA funds unused by local businesses.

Ms. DiTullio said she went to the public input hearing on the Plan of Conservation and Development and said the people in attendance were very supportive of the plan. The EDC is mentioned as a responsible party on many items in the POCD.

Mr. Kiviat asked if the person who had been appointed to the empty seat has ever attended a meeting and was advised he had not. Mr. Kiviat said he had some people who might be interested in joining so he would let the First Selectwoman know.

Public Participation

Jennifer Pappas, a New Fairfield resident, said she was just listening in and attending various committee and Board meetings to understand who does what in Town.

Approval of Minutes from August meeting

Tabled to next meeting due to lack of quorum.

Old Business

Business Owners Happy Hour

Mr. Kiviat asked if Portofino's had been reserved for the Happy Hour event which is scheduled for October 17th. He said he would go in and talk to the owner.

Mr. Werner said he went to The Office - the golf simulator location - and the sign on the door says open by appointment only.

EDC Participation in upcoming New Fairfield events

Ms. DiTullio said it was sad that the New Fairfield Days event got rained out and the next event is the Halloween Trick or Treat which EDC will have a table.

New Business

New and Prospective Businesses

Mr. Werner said the Happy Feet spa seems to have closed and their phone is disconnected. The charcuterie place in Heritage Plaza is waiting for supplies and equipment before they open. Unit number 3 on Route 39 below the orthodontics office will house a retail firearms and firearms assembly business.

Discussion of the Plan of Conservation and Development

Ms. DiTullio mentioned that the consultant told the attendees at the public meeting that it is one thing to do a plan and another to implement it. She said the next step for the POCD is go before the Board of Selectmen for approval. She noted there is a shortage of affordable housing for young and old in New Fairfield.

Mr. Werner said the Board of Finance has been working on 5 and 10 year capital plans. He said the sewer is needed for the downtown businesses.

Restaurant Event

Mr. Kiviat said he spoke to some of the restaurant owners in Town and they definitely indicated February would be a good time to do some kind of event.

Closing Public Comment

Ms. Pappas said she was against the sewer and against the development of the Marjerie Trail.

Adjournment

The meeting closed at 7:45 pm.

Minutes recorded by:

Stephanie R. Barksdale

Recording Secretary