

Town of East Haven, CT
Economic Development Commission Minutes
February 25, 2013
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PRESENT: Chairman Robert Limoncelli
Commissioner Joe Bittner
Commissioner Jerome Pacelli
Commissioner John Serio (7:15)

STAFF: Arthur DeSorbo, Dir.

PUBLIC: Ginny Kozlowski, REX
Will Warren, REX

ABSENT: Commissioner Frank Alvarado

Chairman Limoncelli called the Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Commissioner Pacelli and seconded by Commissioner Bittner to approve the minutes of the November 26th Meeting that were distributed by e-mail. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

Chairman Limoncelli thanked the members for their service to the commission. Chairman Limoncelli stated that there is a meeting tomorrow for Restaurant Week with the owners of the restaurants to discuss a time/budget to hold the event. Last time it was held it was right after the Fall Festival. Advertising will also need to be discussed. Maybe it can be held when the weather breaks in April or May. New Haven holds theirs this year from April 21st to the 26th. There are no dates for Hamden yet and West Haven does theirs in the fall. There is a possibility that we can use social media to help promote Restaurant Week in EH.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None

PRESENTATION ON THE COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Will Warren and Ginny Kozlowski made a presentation and gave handouts to the commission on strategies East Haven could use to build up economic development. A slideshow with a question and answer segment was presented and discussion of what the commissioners would like to see happen in town followed the slideshow to discuss the benefits of having a strategic plan. Director DeSorbo stated that he did an advertising campaign to "brand" the Town in the Westchester County paper and the Fairfield papers and had some response. The component to economic development in East Haven and the region are incentives and right now there is a lack of incentives that can be given to businesses.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Director DeSorbo stated that there was an engineer looking at the shopping plaza next to where ShopRite will be opening and looking into a possible culvert between the two plazas. There is a brewery moving into a building on Bradley Street, a small Norwegian brewery, nothing large.

There being no further business to come before the agency, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:35 p.m. by Commissioner Pacelli and seconded by Commissioner Serio. All were in favor, none opposed, and none abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna
Clerk