

Economic Development Commission

Minutes

January 11, 2023, Monthly Meeting

Call to Order: at 6:03PM

Roll call: C. Gallo; E. Slomba; L. Perry; F. Brown and S. Williams

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was moved to accept minutes by L. Perry and seconded by E. Slomba. One abstention, F. Brown

Public Input: None

Old business:

Hidden Gems: An article will appear in next week's WH paper including Oak Beach and Moby Dick restaurants.

Branding and marketing:

A motion was made by S. Williams to hold off on the discussion until March, at that time we can bring back Andrew Evans to discuss his proposal. The motion was amended by E. Slomba to include Simon at the meeting. The motion was seconded by F. Brown, the motion carried.

Arts Center Update:

E. Slomba reported the City Council is ready to "pay attention" to the seriousness of the Art Center. They realize the Center will be operational for the city. Ken Carney spoke on Monday, January 9th, E. Slomba feels he was contradictory. Recommendations were made to address the first floor only in the beginning with the money available at this time. Including funds that D. Borer obtained. Simon McDonald from the Milford Chambers would like some space at the Art Center. N. Rossi called E. Slomba, she expressed happiness to see this moving forward with more discussion. C. Gallo asked if the expensive items need to be on the first floor. That was mentioned at the Monday City Council meeting. C. Gallo also asked if the money can be used to do something with the building. L. Perry asked why we can't do both floors. E. Slomba said we would need to check on the flow of cash.

Adopt-A-Spot:

C. Gallo presented two applications from two local cities: Seymour and Tolland. She will be contacting Mike Walsh about finding out more information the program and moving forward with presenting a pilot program. She will also contact Tom McCarthy from Public Works to see if they will consider partnering with the EDC to move forward with Adopt-A-Spot and to come to our next meeting. F. Brown said being that public works already have a program. L. Perry said that Public Works will be able to give some support and identify spots. C. Gallo made a motion to be in touch with the department. The motion was seconded by F. Brown and S. Williams. Motion was carried

Railroad Bridges:

C. Gallo is waiting for a response from DOT, via Senator James Maroney.

Patricia C. Kennedy
TOWN AND CITY CLERK

2023 JAN 12 PM 4:02

RECEIVED
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
OF WEST HAVEN

Old business:

None

New Business:

Welcome Mr. Fred Brown- he is the newest member of the board. He was sworn in at City Hall.

L. Perry asked if we could present ideas for West Haven; 1) Restaurant week, 2) Small Business Saturday, 3) Go to on the city to ask for the Banners. E. Slomba said maybe we can invite the city to meet the EDC at a restaurant once a month. (We may be able to secure gift certificates.)

C. Gallo made a motion to divide the items up and have EDC members to bring back information to the committee. The motion was seconded by E. Slomba. Motion carried.

Assignment as follows -

L. Perry - Restaurant week

C. Gallo - Adopt-a-Spot

E. Slomba - Small business Saturdays

S. Williams - banners check with Simon to see if there is money for the banners.

E. Slomba asked about the Board Walk Shoreline Restoration, L. Perry said the survey is out and the public feedback is due by 1/14/2023.

F. Brown asked can we get a budget? C. Gallo said we can ask for a budget.

C. Gallo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM; the motion was seconded by E. Slomba. The motion carried.