



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Mary Bylone, First Selectman

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Monday, May 18, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2020 MAY 26 PM 2:57
Heidi Furman
CAYLE FURMAN
JOHN OLEEN

1. Call To Order – In lieu of a Chairperson, Jean Walsh called the meeting to order.
2. Public Comments – There were no public comments.
3. Changes or Additions to Agenda – There were no changes or additions to the agenda.
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. February 18, 2020 – Ms. Walsh moved to approve the minutes. Heidi Perham seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.
5. New Business
 - a. The Commission discussed the need to elect new officers as a result of recent resignations. In response to Mr. Goldstein's question, Mr. Bordeaux shared his thoughts on the role of the Commission in the future. Mr. Hinchliffe moved to appoint Mr. Goldstein as Chairman and Mr. Faski as Vice-chairman. Ms. Perham seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. The Commission recognized Ms. Walsh for her years of service as Commission Chairperson.
 - b. Town Planner Report – Mr. Bordeaux recapped a few projects underway including Four Seasons residential apartment project; the renovation of the Valero gas station at 339 Old Hartford Road; the GH Trailers project on Old Hartford Road; and the Settler's Green residential apartment conceptual project. Mr. Bordeaux indicated that 687 Old Hartford Road may be under contract and has commercial development potential. He also described the LOTCIP grant application the Town submitted for pedestrian improvements on Lebanon Ave.
 - i. Zoning Regulation Text Amendments – Mr. Bordeaux described the zoning regulation text amendments that are either pending or will be considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission. These include:
 1. Medical marijuana
 2. Affordable Housing
 3. Solar Energy Systems
 4. Units per building in Town Center zone – 239 Norwich Ave
 - ii. Long-Term Recovery Coordination – Mr. Bordeaux described the Board of Selectman's decision to establish a Long-Term Recovery Committee to response

to the needs of the public impacted by the pandemic. He indicated that the Commission may be able to provide recommendations re: recovery response actions.

- iii. Executive Order – Mr. Bordeaux described the process established in response to the Governor's Executive Order re-opening Temporary Outdoor Dining. The municipality is required to certify any restaurant that adds or expands to an existing outdoor dining area.
- iv. C-TIP for Potential Business – NCT Friction Welding – 124 Upton Rd. Mr. Bordeaux described his conversation with a small business owner interested in relocating to Upton Rd. The Commission suggested starting the conversation with them as early in the process as they can.
- v. Open Space and Watershed Acquisition Grant endorsement – Mr. Bordeaux was unable to share his screen for the Commission to view a slideshow outlining the project. The project is to acquire 65 acres of open space on Middletown Rd., adjacent the Pine Brook, a tributary of the Jeremy River. The general discussion was that the proposed acquisition project was unlikely to have a detrimental impact on economic development goals.
- vi. Miscellaneous – Mr. Goldstein asked if the Commission's webpage had been improved recently. Mr. Bordeaux noted that any of the dead-end links have been disabled and Ms. Perham noted that the First Selectman's office has also been making modifications to improve efficiency.
Mr. Goldstein suggested the Commission should consider cancelling the July meeting as many members will have conflicts with vacation time. He also requested that an updated Commission contact list with terms noted should be distributed to the members.

- 6. Old Business – Ms. Walsh noted that there are a few outstanding items that have not been closed out. Mr. Bordeaux indicated the outstanding Town Green grant.

7. Adjourn