

Colchester Economic Development Commission

Monday , December 16, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Colchester Town Hall, Room 2

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2019 DEC 19 AM 8:57  
J. WALSH  
TOWN PLANNER  
CITY OF COLCHESTER

Members Present: J. Walsh, B.Dennler, M.Hinchliffe,H.Perham, B.Goldstein

Others present: Town Planner Matthew Bordeau, J. Faski - CBA

Absent : L. Suarez, S. Nadeau BOF Liaison A. Bisbikos, BOS Liaison

1. Call to Order : J. Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Public Comments : J.Faski asked to be more involved with EDC, recommended he apply for membership.
3. Changes to the Agenda: Chair called for a change to the agenda : add 6 e
4. Approval of the minutes from November 18, 2019. Motion to accept made by B. Dennler, , seconded by H.Perham. Abstain: M Hinchliffe. Minutes accepted.
5. New Business:
  - A. New Business –Town Planner presented update on bus shelter / kiosk project. Grant plan is being prepared to include improvements to the green, architectural plan still required. Had some inquiries re: new restaurant at 149 plaza, and some for Starbucks plaza. Nothing definite or specific.  
Invited SeCog to P&Z Commission to discuss their report on “affordable housing” , and will bring that information to the EDC.
  - B. Small / home business “fair” – chair asked all commission members to think about possible dates / program items , etc , and suggested the planning be done at the next meeting. Walsh asked if SCORE had any programs that could be included in fair. They may participate but will not be the sponsor as they don’t have a specific program for this topic.
6. Old Business - Tabled
  - A. Updates: News articles – list of ideas – S. Nadeau absent – no ideas forwarded
  - B. Discussion on CTIP brochure – B Dennler asked if there was a file of photos that could be uploaded into the trifold format, and reported they were still working on content. Will present a mock up for the commission to review at the January meeting.
  - C. Wayfinder sign update – sign is done, but not mounted. BA teacher will contact Walsh when it is ready for pick up – should be ready for January meeting and installation
  - D. List of newly registered businesses: 2 for October. November not reported
  - E. J Walsh presented a recap of the Arts and Economic Development meeting she attended presented by Ct Arts council. The importance of developing segments of the community are integral to the success / vibrancy / desirability of a community. Ms Walsh suggested all committee members think of suggestions on how / what arts components we can focus on to stimulate / support / promote in our community to become “known” for something. Colchester has a well represented dance community, could use a focus on the painters / sculptors (Walsh will continue to look for a muralist for Gung Ho wall). Mentioned the success and cooperative efforts of EDC, town management and the arts in the City of New Britain with the new bridge , etc  
M.Hinchliffe asked about the web site – to include maps of properties / etc that are available / pre-approved for development. B Goldstein stated the EDC should be focusing on setting policy to make it easier to do business in Colchester – Town Planner will look at categories.
7. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 8:09 pm made by B Goldstein, seconded B.Dennler. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted: Jean Walsh