

Town of East Haven, CT
Economic Development Commission Minutes
March 24, 2014
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PRESENT: Chairman Limoncelli
Commissioner Bittner
Commissioner Serio

STAFF: Arthur L. DeSorbo, Dir.

ABSENT: Commissioner Alvarado
Commissioner Amendola

Chairman Limoncelli called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Commissioner Bittner and seconded by Commissioner Serio to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2013 meeting that were distributed by e-mail. All were in favor, none were opposed and none abstained. **MOTION CARRIED**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director DeSorbo stated that he has been working with a realtor trying to resurrect the Industrial Park off Laurel Street. There are approximately 18 acres, split up, with some wetlands and some environmental issues to work out. The area goes out to an exit on North High Street. He also mentioned that the Beachhead Restaurant is re-opening soon with new owners. The food will stay similar to what was there before. Art is trying to get the new owner to meet with him. There is a ribbon cutting on April 4th for the new Overshores Brewery on Laurel Street. They make a Scandinavian beer. The Sandpiper is currently being remodeled. The owners are taking the outside seating and closing it in with glass so that it can be used year round and they might possibly have plans to go up on the roof for rooftop dining. The restaurant deal on Frontage Road fell through but Art is working on a current East Haven business that might like to relocate there. The property next to Twin Pines is being developed and the building will be leased by Doctor's offices. With regard to the West End, Director DeSorbo stated that he is applying to the State for funds in order to do the job properly, they need money. He has met with the business owners up there and asked their input on what they would like to see. The Progressive Package building is being worked on by the new company moving in there. It's a paper business. The old DiLustro Jewelers on Main Street will now be occupied by the Deli from across the street.

Director DeSorbo also stated that he had been meeting with someone with regard to the marketing of areas in Town in Westchester/Fairfield magazines and has gotten a few calls that haven't panned out yet. He has also been working feverishly on the budget as well. GP's restaurant has closed. The current owners of Antonio's have not renewed their lease which is up at the end of March and the former owners will be taking that over again. The C&F property might possibly have a builder as Subway might be moving from the area where the Bowling Alley is located. Restaurant week was discussed.

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On April 8, 2014 the President of Ecuador will be landing at Tweed for a Yale sponsored event and Director DeSorbo said something would be planned for him in his honor. The Village Restaurant has renovated their restaurant and looks good. Art would like to open conversation again with the owner of the old Eblens Plaza about connecting the two plazas together.

OTHER BUSINESS

Questions were asked regarding the traffic commission looking into the lights on Main Street and Forbes near CVS. The timing is off and there is concern for accidents. Also the no right on red from Short Beach Road to Coe was brought up and wanted to know if that was possible. Director DeSorbo will bring those concerns to the Police Chief.

There being no further business to come before the agency, a motion to adjourn was made at 7:50 p.m. by Commissioner Serio and seconded by Commissioner Bittner. All were in favor, none opposed, and none abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. LaLuna
Clerk