



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK Economic Development Commission

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475
Telephone (860) 395-3139 • FAX (860) 395-3125

David Prendergast, Chair
Vacant, Vice Chair
Sandra Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer

Judy Ganswindt
Kacie Costello Hand
Nick Prevost
Elizabeth Swenson
Susan Quish
Michael Bender, Alternate
Erica Cosenza, Alternate

MEETING MINUTES

HYBRID MEETING

Thursday, February 9, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, David Prendergast, called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: David Prendergast, Nick Prevost, Elizabeth Swenson- virtual, Michael Bender, Erica Cosenza, Susan Quish, Kacie Costello Hand – Virtual, Sandra Roberts

Members absent: Judy Ganswindt

Staff: Jennifer Donahue, Director of Economic Development & Communications

III. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT – None

IV. GUESTS – None

V. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Donahue updated the Commission on the presentation to the Board of Finance of behalf of the EDC, stating that everything went well.

Ms. Donahue stated that the RFP for Mariner's Way has been posted on state and town website.

Ms. Donahue updated the Commission on the visit from the new Commissioner for Economic and Community Development, Alexandra Daum.

Ms. Donahue stated that there has been an uptick in businesses looking for open spaces or expanding their businesses.

VI. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. January 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of January 12, 2023 with the addition under the "Fine Fettle" discussion to include, "The Commission discussed parking and traffic concerns." **MADE** by E. Cosenza; **SECONDED** by S. Quish **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Prendergast, S. Quish, N. Prevost, E. Swenson, E. Cosenza, M. Bender; **ABSTAINING:** K. Hand; **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 6-1-0

VII. ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS –

A. Nominating Committee

David Prendergast has agreed to remain as Chairman of EDC, Kacie Costello-Hand has agreed to Vice-Chairman of EDC, and Sandra Roberts has agreed to remain as Secretary of EDC.

MOTION to nominate the slate of commission officers as presented **MADE** by E. Swenson; **SECONDED** by N. Prevost **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Prendergast, S. Quish, N. Prevost, E. Swenson, E. Cosenza, M. Bender, K. Hand, S. Roberts; **ABSTAINING:** None; **OPPOSED:** None. **APPROVED:** 8-0-0

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. RFP for Marketing Services

Ms. Donahue updated the Commission on questions received from vendors. All questions will be answered in writing, sent to the respondents and posted to the town website.

The Commission discussed the budget, in respect to what the ARPA money is budgeted towards and what needs to come out of the FY23 budget.

B. CT Main Street Center

Ms. Donahue updated the Commission on the walking tour with Carl Rosa of CT Main Street Center. Mr. Rosa will be meeting with her later this month to do a full assessment of Old Saybrook's Main Street. Ms. Donahue stated that Mr. Rosa had some good suggestions and overall, the visit went well.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Art Hallway

Ms. Donahue informed the Commission that Andria Alex has applied to be the next artist for the art hallway. Commissioners discussed her work and agreed that the artist will be a good addition. The installation will be added in May and go through August. One more artist is needed to complete installations for the year.

X. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR - None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting of Thursday February 9, 2023 until the next regularly scheduled hybrid meeting of the Economic Development Commission on March 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, second-floor conference room; **MADE** by N. Prevost; **SECONDED** by E. Cosenza; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Prendergast, S. Quish, N. Prevost, E. Swenson, E. Cosenza, M. Bender, K. Hand; **ABSTAINING:** None **OPPOSED:** None **APPROVED:** 7-0-0