

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK

Economic Development Commission

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475 Telephone (860) 395-3139 • FAX (860) 395-3125 Matthew Pugliese, Chair Carol Conklin, Vice Chair John DeCristoforo, Secretary/Treasurer

Joseph Arcari
David Cole
James Keating
Elizabeth Swenson
Sandra Roberts (Alternate)
Judy Ganswindt (Alternate)

MEETING MINUTES

October 11, 2018 2nd Floor Conference Room, Old Saybrook Town Hall 7:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman Matt Pugliese called the meeting to order at 7:31p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

<u>Members present</u>: Matthew Pugliese, John DeCristoforo, Jim Keating, Elisabeth Swenson, Sandra Roberts, Judy Ganswindt. Joe Arcari arrived 7:38pm. All members were seated.

Members absent: Carol Conklin, David Cole

Staff: Susan Beckman, Economic Development Director; Meryl Moskowitz, Recording Clerk

III. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT

IV. GUEST

V. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. Approval of Minutes: September 13, 2018

MOTION to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 13, 2018 as presented; **MADE** by J. Keating; **SECONDED** by J. DeCristoforo; **VOTING IN FAVOR**: M. Pugliese, J. Keating, J. DeCristoforo, E. Swenson, J. Ganswindt, S. Roberts; **OPPOSED**: None; **ABSTAINING**: None; **APPROVED**: 6-0-0.

B. Correspondence & Announcements

The Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce is having a community-wide scarecrow contest, called Scarecrow Fest. They are also hosting a business expo, called B2B LENS Summit. By unanimous agreement, the Commission approved a \$70 banner sponsorship.

A letter from Brigitte Frank, Director of Communications at Pathway Lighting, dated October 10, 2018, was reviewed and discussed. Members are highly supportive of Pathway Lighting and wish to see the matter favorably resolved; they asked S. Beckman to collect more information from the First Selectman.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

Mariner's Way Redevelopment – TIF Master Plan discussion

S. Beckman reviewed the concept of the Tax Increment Financing tool, and reviewed highlights of the TIF District Master Plan, which will be presented at the October 23, 2018 public hearing of the Board of Selectmen. S. Beckman stated that TIF is not a new tax, nor does it increase taxes. A portion of incremental revenue is captured and may be used for a variety of private projects within the District.

Discussion followed. S. Beckman is to inquire if the TIF District can be extended to include the area of the "Cat in the Hat" building.



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VII. ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

A. ED PoCD Update

On October 17, 2018 a joint meeting of the Planning and Economic Development Commissions is scheduled to review the work of the Economic Development Strategy Group, to provide an update, and a review of some of the research done, as well as get feedback from members.

B. Mariner's Way Redevelopment

Consultant Rich Scierka has been gathering video for a promotional Mariner's Way and overall Town videos.

C. Marketing Plan

- S. Beckman continues to meet every Thursday at 11a.m. with R. Scierka to work on marketing and social media. Channel 3 recently completed a segment which will air on "Better CT" October 12.
- **D.** Recognition of Long-Term Businesses/Spirit of Saybrook no activity
- **E.** Arts & Culture no activity

X. **NEW BUSINESS - none**

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT

XI. STAFF REPORT

S. Beckman distributed a written staff report containing updates in several areas: Main Street Connections Parking Lot and Park Project, BAR Planning Grant, sustainable CT, Business Recruitment and Retention, and more.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Economic Development Commission which will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2018, at 7:30 P.M., Town Hall, 302 Main Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room; **MADE** by J. DeCristoforo; **SECONDED** by J. Keating; **VOTING IN FAVOR**: M. Pugliese, J. Keating, J. DeCristoforo, E. Swenson, J. Ganswindt, S. Roberts, J. Arcari; **OPPOSED**: None; **ABSTAINING**: None; **APPROVED**: 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz Recording Clerk