



## 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  
Carol Conklin, Vice Chair  
Sandra Roberts, Secretary/Treasurer

David Cole  
Judy Ganswindt  
Norman "Nick" Prevost  
Elizabeth Swenson  
Kacie Costello Hand, (Alternate)  
Susan Quish, (Alternate)

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

#### HYBRID MEETING

Thursday, February 10, 2022 – 7 P.M.  
Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair David Prendergast called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Members present: David Prendergast, Carol Conklin, Sandra Roberts, Elizabeth Swenson, Kacie Costello Hand, Susan Quish

Members absent: David Cole, Judy Ganswindt, Nick Prevost

Staff: Susan Beckman, Economic Development Director and acting Recording Clerk and Julie Nordberg, Clerk

#### III. PUBLIC QUESTION & COMMENT - none

#### IV. GUESTS – none

#### V. STAFF REPORT

S. Beckman reported that there has been some activity in commercial building sales.

#### VI. REGULAR BUSINESS

##### A. Approval of Minutes: January 13, 2022

Two typos need to be changed: Under item VIII Advisory Group Reports, B. Façade Improvement/Revolving Loan Fund/Development Fund – “id” on the first line should read “is” and under item XI Adjournment, the Motion should read “Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 P.M.”

**MOTION** to approve the meeting minutes of January 13, 2022; **MADE** by K. Hand; **SECONDED** E. Swenson; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** C. Conklin, S. Roberts, E. Swenson; K. Hand; S. Quish; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** D. Prendergast.  
**APPROVED:** 5-0-1

##### B. Correspondence & Announcements

Chris Costa, Town Planner and Zoning Enforcement Officer, sent an update that some businesses are moving and new ones coming to town. Two examples are the Estuary Thrift Shop is moving to 855 Boston Post Road (next to Fromage and Swag) and an art gallery is moving into the former barber shop at the corner of Main Street and Sheffield Street.



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### VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. FY '22-'23 Budget – The EDC was not required to make a presentation this year because it had no increase in its budget.
- B. New Signs at Exit 67 off ramp & Wayfinding around town – S. Beckman provided a mock-up of the sign provided by One Look Sign Company. The quote for the sign is \$3,103.07. The EDC directed S. Beckman to talk with the First Selectman about finding funding to purchase and install the sign.

### VIII. ADVISORY GROUP REPORTS

- A. Business Recognition – D. Cole & N. Prevost – no update
- B. ARPA – K. Hand provided an update from the ARPA Committee. The committee is discussing broad categories of potential funding priorities including: Small Business and Workforce Development support; Economic Resilience; Health and Safety; and Infrastructure. The commissioners discussed some project ideas (S. Beckman will provide some written proposals to them via email next week) and posed questions about broadband.
- E. Swenson asked about the status of the cannabis moratorium. S. Beckman will provide information to the commissioners via email including the Zoning Commission minutes from February 7, 2022 and the date of any upcoming public hearings on the matter.
- E. Swenson provided an update on her inquiry about the building pad for lease in the Paperback Café parking lot. She is waiting for the real estate agent to call her with a response from the property owner about contributing the pad to the town or leasing the pad to the town for \$1. Some commissioners would like to have a visitor building with public restrooms in that location.

### IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Officer Nominating Committee – E. Swenson and D. Cole will serve as member of the nominating committee. Officers will be elected at the March meeting.
- B. Art Hallway Exhibit Application – the commissioners reviewed the application and samples of work.

**MOTION** to approve a display by the Marshview Artists September-December;  
**MADE** by K. Hand; **SECONDED** by S. Quish; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Prendergast, C. Conklin, S. Roberts, E. Swenson; K. Hand; S. Quish;  
**OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None. **APPROVED:** 6-0-0

- C. Town Art Hallway – OS Historic Locations Photo Contest Exhibit  
S. Beckman proposed the EDC sponsor a photo contest of historic sites in Old Saybrook and have the winners displayed in the Art Hallway. The timing of the contest is not yet determined. S. Beckman will gather some information on photo contests and write up guidelines.



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- X. **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR** – D. Prendergast thanked S. Roberts for chairing the January meeting in his absence.
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 P.M. until the next regularly scheduled hybrid meeting of the Economic Development Commission on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00pm, Town Hall, 302 Main Street, second floor conference room; **MADE** by S. Quish; **SECONDED** by S. Roberts; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Prendergast, C. Conklin, S. Roberts, E. Swenson; K. Hand; S. Quish; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None. **APPROVED:**6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Beckman, Economic Development Director  
Acting Recording Clerk