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March 11, 2020 Meeting  
West Haven Economic Development Commission  
Bimonthly Meeting Minutes, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
5:15 PM City Hall, 355 Main St, West Haven, CT

**Minutes:**

Meeting was called to order at 5:25 By Chairman Christine Gallo

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendees: Eleanor Slomba, Stefano Coletta, Lalani Perry, Scotti Williams, Christine Gallo, Ed Voss

Chairman called for a motion to adopt the minutes; it was moved to adopt the minutes by E. Voss, seconded by L. Perry motion carried

**Public Input:**

Chairman ask if there was any public input, Barry Cohen, 10<sup>th</sup> district, appointed liaison to the EDC, made a suggestion to invite Colleen O'Connor who served many years under Picard. He suggested the EDC can ask her to come and speak to the EDC about possibly setting up and conducting an Economic Summit, (which was done before). The EDC will invite local business owners to come out and learn about the city. Maybe host it for two days, invite surrounding cities, and serve breakfast, lunch and dinner and tour the city. The EDC can barter and use the local businesses to bring the cost down, as well as work with surrounding businesses. He suggested Colleen O'Connor will be able to help us if it was something we were interested in doing. E. Voss suggested we will need the property market list for available areas.

**Old Business:**

Chairman Gallo, shared the books and information she received from the Planning and Zoning Commissioner, Fred Messoré; & Asst. Planning and Zoning Commissioner, Dave Killeen. Chairman Gallo talked about the book *Planned of Conservation*, which had information and include development of the signage in West Haven, (where they were placed) and the beautification committee.

Chairman Gallo and E. Slomba will be attending the CCM meeting that will be held in Newton, CT, 2/13/20, starting 9:00 AM, they will bring information back to the EDC

- E. Slomba, called phone numbers for some vacant properties locally to see if she would actually speak to someone. E. Slomba, said that there were pickups or someone called back.
- E. Voss said maybe we can market the vacant properties on the internet

## The EDC Future Meeting Dates for the year 2020

February 26 <sup>th</sup>	July 8 <sup>th</sup>	December 2 <sup>nd</sup>
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	August 12 <sup>th</sup>	
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	September 9 <sup>th</sup>	
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	September 23 <sup>rd</sup>	
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	October 7 <sup>th</sup>	
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	October 21 <sup>st</sup>	
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	November 4 <sup>th</sup>	
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	November 18 <sup>th</sup>	

**Chairman Gallo will schedule all meeting at West Haven City Hall, 355 Main Street, West Haven, Harriett North Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

A motion was made to accept the meeting dates by S. Williams, seconded by E. Voss, motion carried

### **New Business:**

Chairman Gallo spoke to the Mayor about having business cards print for the Commissioners. She said it would be nice to have a business card in hand when we are out doing business of the EDC on behalf of West Haven. It would look more professional and formal. Mayor Rossi agreed. The Commissioners wrote down our names, numbers and email addresses so that the cards can be made up and printed.

### **Mode of Attack/Strategic Brief**

- To develop a plan and brand for the city
- Sustainable message, we have a Gem in West Haven
- The Commissioners took part in a strategic briefing of what attracted them to West Haven. The EDC members were all given five minutes and sticky notes to write on what attracted them to West Haven. The notes were place on the board under specific categories that where highlighted:
  - The shoreline
  - The train station
  - Neighborhoods
  - Beach
  - Sidewalks
  - Bike/walking lanes
  - Jobs
  - Civil traditions; parades, 4<sup>th</sup> of July fire works
  - Economic Development

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- Big project - get the bridge painted so it would look like the gateway to West Haven, and would attract people. Also, more lighting under the bridge. (the bridge on First Ave after the diner) E. Voss suggested the Chair should get letter to the City Rep members to approach Metro North for monetary help
- Inventory of all the channels in West Haven

L. Perry will take on the branding for the city as we go forward with meetings. E. Voss will be in touch with the city reps. E. Slomba will talk to Savin Rock Screen Printing for banner/flags. We will like to include the new brand on all the flags. Also, we need to include the "Haven" in the conversation as we move forward, the developers are getting money from the city and the state, we want them to give back and be sponsors.

The Chair asked for a motion adjourn the meeting, the motion was made by S. Williams, seconded E. Voss the meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.