

West Haven Economic Development Commission

Bimonthly Meeting Minutes, March 11th, 2020

5:15 PM City Hall, 355 Main St, West Haven, CT

Harriett North Room, 2nd FL

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 5:20 by Chairman Christine Gallo

Pledge of Allegiance

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

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

Public Input:

No Public Input

Old Business:

Flags: S. Coletta reported on hanging of the flags. He spoke to the Tom McCarthy, Commissioner of Public Works, about hanging of the flags. Mr. McCarthy said that they can hang the flags, however, if they were to hang the flags in May, the flags must come down before July 1st. The flags would have to come down because the city will

RECEIVED
TOWN AND CITY CLERK
OF WEST HAVEN
2020 OCT 27 PM 2:51
Patricia C. McCarthy
TOWN AND CITY CLERK

need to hang the American flags. Mr. McCarthy also said that union members will have to hang the flags. Barry said that for safety reasons the city recommend that the city members in the union should do these jobs. S. Coletta reported that they have the American flags in storage, he didn't ask how many or where the flags will be hung. E. Slomba suggested maybe to just have them hang the American flags for May and June and to hang the city flags after the 4th of July. There are two companies S. Coletta will speak with about getting the flags; Screen Printer and Pinpoint Savin Rock.

L. Perry and E. Slomba meet with Wayne Gallipoli to ask to design the flags. E. Slomba reported he didn't seem interested. It was suggested we look at the students at UNH, ESUM or West Haven High School.

C. Gallo, asked how many flags do we need; what kind of material are the flags made out of? E. Voss will check with P&Z before we move forward with the flags. E. Slomba said she has a copy of New Haven's diagram & regulations, she will email the document to S. Coletta and C. Gallo.

Overpasses: E. Voss reported on the overpasses painting. E. Voss stated it's a very ambitious project and the project will probably take six to eight months to see any movement on the project. It's a good idea that we are addressing it now. E. Voss want the politicians to get permission from Metro North to fund this project since

these are there overpasses. E. Voss would like to get a letter to Metro North with the signatures of all the EDC members. E. Voss spoke of approaching UNH, Yale University to ask for support and input on this project. E. Voss believes if we work together jointly we should be able to get something done about the "eye sore" bridges. E. Voss suggested maybe start a petition to get as many signatures as possible. We will need permission to move forward with a petition from the Mayor's office. E. Voss said over by Yale's West Campus the over pass looks horrible and should be painted as well. E. Voss said he was going to speak to James Maloney from Milford about a letter that Milford sent and how they accomplish getting their overpass done. E. Voss said the cost of one of the bridges would be about \$7,500.00 after the blasting of the rust. S. Coletta said after the sand blasting, the bridges would have to have primed and then painted.

E. Slomba said that Art West CT have money in the bank and they can contribute towards the paint. E. Slomba said that Yale University and UNH donated money to the Art West CT.

C. Gallo asked P&Z about a budget for the EDC? Fred said that there was no money, but he can add a line item to the P&Z budget for the EDC. C. Gallo asked if there can be a meeting with Metro North and let them know it maybe safety issues? C. Gallo suggested E. Voss should mention in his draft letter to Metro North, (the safety

issues). C. Gallo also mentioned that Steve Fontana can tell E. Voss more details about the Humphrey Street Bridge in New Haven.

Farmers Market: S. Williams gave an informal report. S. Williams motion she was unsuccessful in getting a contact name for the Farmer's Market at YNHH. S. Williams found out the Farmer's Market was sponsored by the Psych Hospital. S. Williams looked on line and was doing some research on local Farmer's Markets. S. Williams suggested to add a health spin, blood pressure table, maybe invite Triple AAA once a month and add more vendors. E. Slomba said Sustainable CT can come out to support, Robin Parson. E. Slomba let the committee know we will be meeting with Kristin in the mayor's office to discuss the Farmer's Market. Kristin is currently in charge of the Farmers Market.

Beautification: C. Gallo stated that she discussed with the committees about reaching out to the Lyon's Club. E. Voss announce they are getting ready to disassemble the club...lack of membership participation. C. Gallo announced that in May the beautification clubs will begin planting petunias. C. Gallo said it is to early to plant perennials. The clubs do have some funds on hand. May is too early for the EDC to come out to plant flowers. Maybe we can move the "Spring into Action" to July. The EDC hope at that time we can get the flags up by then and

plant the perennials. C. Gallo said July will give us more time with all the items we have listed for beautification of the city and to have the flags up. S Williams made a motion to move the "Spring into Action" weekend from May to July for the reasons that were discussed, the motion was seconded by S. Coletta. The motion carried.

Workshop: The is scheduled for June 3rd, at City Hall, 355 Main St, West Haven, CT

Harriett North Room, 2nd FL. Alex from the WH Chamber of Commerce will get C. Gallo a list, of the 30 key businesses and other prominent names to invite. C. Gallo thinks it will be around 80 people. S. Williams suggested once we have the invitations that we go to business owners and personally invite them. Only hand the invitation to managers or the owners. C. Gallo will speak to Shawn at Casa Blanca to see if he's still willing to provide the food for the evening.

Pollinator Pathway: There is \$5,000.00 that is needed to complete the project. They are expecting matched gifts for the project. E. Slomba will check with Golden Hill Nursery. E. Slomba will ask if people buy flowers will they match they match up to \$5,000.00.

New Business: C. Callo suggested that the EDC need to come up with a list of businesses we should target. Each member should approach these businesses for donations.

The EDC members should them to our meetings, also E. Voss suggested inviting Fred's department to the EDC meeting every two months with updates. We should give him 10 to 15 minutes. The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2020.

C. Gallo asked for a motion to close the meeting at 7:10. The motion was made by E. Voss and it was seconded by S. Coletta.