

Regular Meeting
Vernon Economic Development Commission

Wednesday, May 10, 2017
7:30 A.M.

Vernon Town Hall, 3rd Floor, 14 Park Place Vernon, CT

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

RECEIVED
VERNON TOWN CLERK
17 NOV 30 PM 6:55

1. Call to Order

Vice Chairman William Breslau called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

Members Present: Commissioners Bill Breslau, Peter Olson, James Sendrak, Bill McGurk, Jeff Adamson, Bruce Kloter, and Bruce Kellogg.

Members Absent: Commissioners Jeff Cohen, Dan Kennedy, and Meghan Scranton.

Also Present: Mayor Daniel A. Champagne, Shaun Gately, Economic Development Coordinator and Recording Secretary Leslie Campolongo.

2. Public Forum

There was no one present for Public Forum. Discussion took place regarding promotion of Economic Development Commission to encourage attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes from meeting on March 8, 2017

Commissioner Adamson motioned to approve the meeting minutes from March 8, 2017, motion seconded by Commissioner Olson. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Economic Development Status Update

A. Current Projects

- **200 West Main St.** – Working out the details of the Urban Act grant between the Town and Owner.
- **Talcott Brothers Mill** – Grand opening on 6/22/17. Planned commercial space on 1st floor.
- **Amerbelle Mill** - Phase 1 of Remediation/Redevelopment is slated for completion by 5/19/17.
- **206 Talcottville Rd.** (spec retail plaza) – Project is stalled
- **243 Talcottville Rd.** (Trail Run apartments) – Working with OSTA regarding curb cuts, condition of the Road.
- **129 Talcottville Rd. and 145 Talcottville Rd** (Wendy's, retail and storage) - Working with OSTA regarding traffic flow, curb cuts and road condition.

Discussion took place regarding the widening of Rt. 83, current setback requirements.

- **179 Talcottville Rd.** (AFC Urgent Care) – project is moving along. Opening set for 6/29/17.
- **504 Talcottville Rd.** (O'Reilly Auto parts) – project is moving slowly. Plans are in with Planning and Zoning to demolish current structure and construct new building.
- **175 Hartford Tpke.** (Carter Chevy) - Project is moving along, it had been delayed with the state but has resumed.
- **1188 Hartford Tpke.** (Dollar General) –project is moving along.
- **14 Hyde Ave** (Multi Family/ commercial) – presently in front of the Inlands Wetlands Commission for permitting.

Commissioner Adamson inquired of Mayor Champagne about the plans for Citizen's Block, as well as the neighboring Senior Center. Discussion took place regarding parking, and potential retail space.

5. New Business

A. **UConn Digital Media and Design Department (*Student agency-ATION*)** – Mr. Gately showed the Commission the final video created by the UCONN Students. Response was favorable. Discussion took place regarding updates to Economic Development’s webpage and an analysis of its social media presence. Mr. Gately will send a link of the video to the Commission.

6. Old Business

A. **Three-year Plan discussion** – Item will remain on Agenda.

Mr. Gately reminded Commission that the revisions to POCD are two years away. Discussion took place regarding EDC’s place in those discussions.

Mr. Breslau proposed that the Commission review and be prepared to discuss pertinent chapters of the current POCD for the next meeting. Mr. Gately will resend the related Chapters to the Commission

B. **Community Outreach/Events.**

a. **Business Showcase- Breakfast-** Cluster centered event concept- When? Commissioner Sendrak suggested the Commission hold this event annually, perhaps the fall 2017. Talcott Mill was suggested as a venue. Mr. Gately will make contact with the mill to see about hosting an event this fall.

b. **Review of Implementation Plan and Three year Plan**

BREWERY EVENT - Discussion took place regarding the subcommittee’s progress on the Commission hosting an event. A meeting was held with local non-profit to assist with the event. A consultant has been hired (Heather Schold – Owner of Rising Pint Brewery). Event timeframe of spring 2018 is forecasted. Goal is to find two locations to hold event. Mr. Kaplan has volunteered his location as hosting facility.

Commissioner Kellogg discussed a development project he is working on which will include a brewery, and other components. He offered to host the next EDC meeting there and provide a tour of the facility. Mr. Gately will follow up with Commissioner Kellogg to determine a date for tour and meeting.

7. Ribbon Cuttings/ Ground Breakings/ New businesses

- *Ribbon Cutting for Old Talcott Mill on 6-22-17 (9:00am)*
- *Ribbon Cutting AFC Urgent Care on 6-29-17 (5:30pm)*

Discussion took place regarding the Chamber of Commerce being included on the Economic Development Commission distribution list.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner McGurk and seconded by Commissioner Sendrak. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 8:20 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie S. Campolongo
Recording Secretary

