

**TOWN OF HEBRON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 23, 2009 REGULAR MEETING
HORTON HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM
15 GILEAD ST., HEBRON, CT**

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HEBRON TOWN CLERK

RECEIVED

Members Present: L.Preston, N.Dorval, Jon Lesisko, V.Avelis
Alternate Absent: Bruce Raymond
Staff Present: Michael O'Leary
Guests Present: Jim Celio, Jeff Watt, Board of Selectmen

The Regular meeting of the EDC has been called to order at 7:00 p.m. by N.Dorval.

Approval of Minutes:

V.Avelis moved to approve the January 20, 2009 minutes as presented J.Lesisko seconded and the motion carried.

Election of Officers:

J.Lesisko nominated N. Dorval to continue to serve as Chairman, L.Preston seconded the nomination. J.Lesisko nominated L. Preston to serve as Vice-Chairman and V.Avelis seconded. N.Dorval nominated V.Avelis to serve as Secretary and J.Lesisko seconded. The nominations were closed by motion of J.Lesisko and L.Preston seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Report on Updating of Business Listings on Town Website

V.Avelis reported identifying 454 businesses registered in Hebron. Out of that figure, 135 had no telephone numbers listed while 319 had listed telephone numbers. V.Avelis also noted she located a free website "Survey Monkey" that offers a free survey service. She presented to the EDC that in the future it may be possible to send the survey out with the Tax bills in May. After some discussion it was determined that a networking opportunity may be to schedule a gathering. V.Avelis and L.Preston will work on developing the survey wording as while as inquire if the tax collector can put a check box on the tax form.

Marketing Sign for Village Green

The EDC welcomed Jim Celio to discuss the marketing concept for the Village Green Sign. J.Celio stated you need to spend money on marketing but they have limited funds. He submitted information on advertisement sources for the EDC to review at a later time. J.Celio summarized the process of listing the basic information on the website and proceeded to give the costs to publicize in the various local newspapers. He noted that he is willing to present a more formalized outline later if the EDC has funds available. He reported there are no prospects at this time.

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J.Celio presented the Sign to the EDC. Discussion ensued regarding changes to the sign such as including the website on the sign.

Networking Opportunities with HBPA

N.Dorval suggested inviting businesses to the library to provide a networking forum. M.O'Leary commented that he recently spoke with Rich Calarco, the Parks & Recreation Director and he is planning a Open House for the East Street Park sometime in August. R.Calarco is interested in holding a reception to include inviting various businesses and Town dignitaries for a "Big Hebron Day" celebration.

N.Dorval decided to host a networking opportunity this May or June at the library. M.O'Leary will contact the library to book a date.

Jeff Watt reported that at the last BOS meeting S.Tarca presented her plans for the health facility and is now going to present the final plan to the P&Z Commission in April. He also stated S.Tarca has been talking with representatives from the State regarding traffic lighting which has now been approved. J.Watt stated the BOS and the BOF are in support of S.Tarca's plans and are seeking alternative ways to support this project.

J.Watt agreed that the concept of scheduling a networking forum and have S.Tarca speak to the public is a great idea. He encouraged the EDC to do this before the month of May. It was noted that Paul Burton will get in touch with N.Dorval.

N.Dorval stated this would be a good networking opportunity for Hebron Businesses, as well as an ISO upgrade. He noted there are a lot of positive things to give to the Town and the EDC will find a lot of support; this is the year to push forward.

Discussion ensued regarding the format of the forum. It was agreed to organize it by providing 6 or 7 stations, L.Preston and V.Avelis will publicize in the RiverEast. M.O'Leary will contact S.Tarca, Jim Celio and Paul Burton to select a date and get a table and a date at the library.

Community Events Sign

M.O'Leary distributed sketches that had been done 3 to 4 years ago. It was one board with changeable inserts. Discussion ensued regarding the ability to put up 3 or 4 signs. N.Dorval recommended before the next EDC meeting, members could visit other local towns to take note of the sign(s) they have posted on their green. N.Dorval asked permission to speak with the Lions Club members on the behalf of the EDC.

Façade Improvement Program Update

M.O'Leary gave a brief explanation of how this program is designed to work. He explained that this is part of the STEAP Program and a Façade Improvement Committee has been established. The committee members are J.Padell, V.Avelis, J.Summers, the Building Official, J.Soderberg, and T.Fenton, the Town Engineer. It is set up to be a reimbursement type. RFQ proposals have been submitted from various architectural

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firms. Each member will receive a proposal and the interviews will then be set. It is a qualification statement not a low bid.

501 Church Street

M.O'Leary reported there is currently no new update. He noted as soon as Fuss & O'Neill and CROGG agree they will send it to the EPA (funding source). N.Dorval requested getting M.McCorrison to talk with the business owner to make certain the property is secured. (the building door had been open).

Annual Report

V.Avelis moved to accept the Annual Report submitted by L.Preston. J.Lesisko seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Development Opportunities

M.O'Leary reported that the Package Store owner, Joe Randazo is interested in expanding the Donato Building. M.O'Leary offered to assist him in the site design to stay inline with the character of the community.

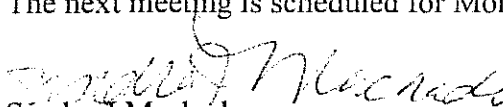
M.O'Leary reported he met with Drake Petroleum and their engineers and the CT Water Company. Drake signed the consent form and is committed to handling the water main. He distributed the plan outline sketched on a map. He proceeded to explain that the old station will be torn down and will be re-built. This should start this spring. The CT Water Company has committed to pay for the expense of extending the water main down Hebron green and end at Rte. 85. (this will tie into Stonecroft eventually).

M.O'Leary reported there are plans to put an addition onto the pharmacy to include Americare in the same building. He also reported there is a small residential subdivision going in soon.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.


Sandra J.Machado
Board Clerk