

RECEIVED

2022 SEP 27 A 9:01



*Noë Stagnin*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

**Economic Development Commission**

**Branford, Connecticut**

## Meeting Minutes

**September 21, 2022**

Joe Trapasso Community House - Church St – Branford

**Present:** Cathy Lezon (Chair), Elena Cahill, Al Canosa, Frank Hird, John Leonard, Rich Sgueglia, Alisa Waterman, Dee Jacob (Shoreline Chamber), Perry Maresca (Staff)

**Call to Order:** Chair Cathy Lezon called the meeting to order at 8:16am.

**Approval of Minutes** June Minutes: Motion to accept by Al Canosa; second by Rich Sgueglia. Motion carried. Note: No meetings in July or August

### Reports:

**Staff Report:** Aldi and Chase Bank both opened in June. Activity continues with inquiries on multiple different properties around exit 56. Musical Mondays, Way Back Wednesdays, and Thursday Night Jazz brought people down to the Town Green all summer. Town Center Merchants continue to meet monthly; Sidewalk Sale extremely successful; this year's Sip, Shop & Stroll scheduled for December 1st will have a new twist featuring more local businesses. Restaurant industry continues to be an integral part of our town. Although some have closed, many new have opened. Business Expo at Stony Creek Brewery held this summer with plans for another in the fall. Music Festival also held there brought people by land and sea as the river was filled with boats and kayaks. Visitors from 107 CT towns and 18 states enjoyed an afternoon and evening of music, spending their dollars at our restaurants and for lodging. Likewise, the Stony Creek Fife & Drum Corps hosted Branford's first Muster. It brought in people from all over as they supported their favorite of 30 Corps, from as far away as Limerick, Ireland. The BACA event: "Painted Doors of Branford" lined Main Street with people admiring, buying and special ordering the unique artwork. Although Stony Creek Urgent Care is closing, DOCS Medical has opened. Autac is celebrating 75 years in business.

**Planning & Zoning:** Buckley Road development of 12 homes was approved. Bluepoint Apothecary, LLC received approval for a Special Exception-Hybrid Retailer Cannabis Establishment at 471 East Main St. 119 Montowese St was approved to become shared use office space. 819 East Main St seeking approval for Special Exceptions-Research Laboratory to house an existing Branford company in need of larger headquarters. 175 Cherry Hill Rd housing development likely coming back to P&Z in the fall. Parkside project about to start. Marina Village and Mariners Landing progressing. Apartments at exit 55 should have the first two buildings occupied in a month or two. Sterling Ridge is moving along. Bausch + Stroebel and new brewery on Rt 139 are both progressing nicely.

*Chamber: Dee Jacob-* QU will hold a Q&A with Stefanowski and Lamont at 8:30 am on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Shoreline Chamber of Commerce to host Q&A with Comey & Ingraham, as well as Cristi & Cohen on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am by Zoom. Fall Festival featuring businesses and restaurants to showcase themselves will be held at Guilford Fairgrounds "2022 Best of the Shoreline – Fall Food & Business Expo" on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. "Women of Excellence" to be held November 15<sup>th</sup>. Business assistance programs are being utilized and the "How To" videos are being produced. Workforce growth and workforce developers encourage the "Learn Here Earn Here" policies.

*Selectman's Report:* None

**Old Business:** Reestablishing committees; Wayfinding/Welcoming Signs; Posting on Facebook and Website updating and maintenance: **All** Tabled for the next EDC meeting.

### **New Business:**

Correspondence: Demolition notices for 14 Esther Place; 230 Pleasant Point Rd; 21 Parker Place; 39 Goodsell Point Rd all approved without any concerns or discussion.

No Public Comment.

### **Announcements:**

CBIA's 2022 Connecticut Economy conference Friday 9/23 from 7:30a-11:30a.

BioCT President Dawn Hocevar to retire in spring 2023. Next Meeting = October 19, 2022

**Meeting adjourned @ 9:18a.** Motion by Rich Sgueglia second by Al Canosa

Respectfully submitted,

Perry Maresca  
Staff

**<https://www.bestcitiesforbusiness.net>**

**475-837-3622    [pmaresca@branford-ct.gov](mailto:pmaresca@branford-ct.gov)  
Perry Maresca • Economic and Business Development Manager**

Cathy Lezon (Chair) • [edc@branford-ct.gov](mailto:edc@branford-ct.gov)  
Elena Cahill • Al Canosa • Frank Hird • John Leonard • Richard Sgueglia • Alisa Waterman  
First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove [ex officio]

**Branford Economic Development Commission - 1019 Main Street - Branford, CT 06405 - 203-315-0637 - [www.branford-ct.gov](http://www.branford-ct.gov)**