



Branford, Connecticut

Economic Development Commission

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BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

Meeting Minutes December 18, 2019

Present:

Joe Gordon, Perry Maresca, William O'Brien, Jamie Cosgrove, Richard Sgueglia, Alisa Waterman, John Leonard, Cathy Lezon

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Perry Maresca called the meeting to order 8:06am
- II. **Consent Agenda:** Alisa Waterman moved to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Rich Sgueglia, motion passed.
- III. **External reports**
 - A. **Selectman's Report** – Successful ABCT (Accelerator for Biosciences in CT) Event was held. The Center Merchants wreaths fundraiser for Feed Branford Kids collected \$2100 so far and is expected to hit \$2800 compared to last year's number which was \$1400. The first Selectman reported that the Community Center is up and running. New Firehouse for Indian Neck Co#9 is open. The Blackstone Library will be completed by the end of the month. The Walsh School is on target, as the students will occupy the new wing on January 6. The Indian Neck firehouse is on target and on budget. The Sybill Creek bridge in front of Lenny's is going out to bid.
 - B. **P & Z** – The Nuzzo Farm is working on final plan with P&Z for approval of hosting "non-farming" special events. Thimble Island Brewery has been approved to install a Pizza Oven. The buildings at Summit Place behind Liberty Bank are seeking approval to convert more space into apartments. Property on Pin Oak Drive is being developed for lab and office space. Aldi's and Chase bank are looking to build on the old "Bob Matick Chevrolet" spot as they are heading for Inland Wetlands approval. There is a new housing subdivision in the works by Parish Farm Rd
 - C. **Chamber Report: No Report**
 - D. **Chairman's Update:** Working closely with Selectman's office to be sure that inquiries and opportunities are responded to and acted upon. Propria moved from Business Park Dr to a larger facility at Pin Oak Dr and East Industrial Rd. Perry congratulated Bill O'Brien on being named Person of the Week in Shore Publishing's Branford Sound and Zip06. Eversource is taking strides to be Carbon Neutral by 2030. Shawn McKay CEO of IsoPlexis, which employs 125 people in town, was named entrepreneur of the year by BioCT. The chairman discussed the need for more modern BIO Med type space in Branford, and noted that we need to look at upgrading older buildings to attract new businesses.
- IV. **Committee Reports and Unfinished Business**
 - E. **Research Committee:** Perry reported that he is looking for additional quotes for the copywriting needed on our website. He will reach out and obtain quotes so that Town Hall can make a final decision.
 - F. **Resource Committee:** No Report
 - G. **Retention Committee:** Presented BCTV with the EDC Business Recognition Award.
- V. **New Business: None**
 - A. **New/Other business:** Request for demolition of house at 5 Brandegee Ave met no objection. Emily Granelli from BH Care gave a presentation on the new Shoreline Family Health Care Facility located on West Main Street with target date to be open in January
 - B. **Public Comments, Announcements**
 - C. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned 9:36am