

**Town of Ridgefield
Economic Development Commission
Special Meeting held March 30, 2009
Town Hall/Large Conference Room**

Approved Minutes

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

In attendance: Bob Knight, Paul Levine, Chris Fisher, Mark Robinson, Bill Markus, Rick O'Brien and Magdalena Fincham.

Also in attendance – David Grogins, Esq. and Rudy Marconi, First Selectman

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Task Force Status Updates:

Downtown – Bob Knight and Magdalena Fincham will meet with Marion Roth on Tuesday. Bob will also meet with Wendy Lionetti to gather some of the information requested by Mark Waterhouse.

Branchville – Mark Robinson met with Rudy Marconi for an update. Items discussed were the expansion of the train station parking with a multi-level garage, property on the east side of the tracks owned by Ancona's which is being contemplated as a corporate development and \$30M from the stimulus package for computerized signaling and switching.

Paul Levine asked Mark Robinson to meet with Steve Soler and include him in the meeting.

Prospective Development – Rick O'Brien reported there is a potential buyer for Schlumberger. The potential buyer would be bringing in a strategic partner on which going forward is dependent.

Rick spent 4 hours showing Mark Waterhouse around Ridgefield. They visited all the business districts and met with Betty Brosius.

Arts and Cultural Development - Bill Markus met with Rudy Marconi to find out what plans the Town has for an Arts District. The plan is to make this area more customer friendly, including paving parking lots. Bill also called Nancy Andrews to offer the Economic Development Commission's help to facilitate arts and cultural development in anyway possible.

Pond's Edge – Chris Fisher spoke with Betty Brosius who said there has been some interest by possible tenants over the past year but nothing has materialized. There were some previous environmental concerns but nothing that impeded occupancy.

Sustainable and Renewable Energy Business Park and Showroom – Magdalena Fincham will meet with Mike Greenberg, Rudy Marconi and Paul Levine on Tuesday, March 31st. Magdalena also spoke with Jay Walker who said he would support the EDC. Magdalena will also meet with Rudy Marconi to discuss the issue of septic versus sewers, restrictions on effluence and any State assistance that may be available.

Bennett's Pond Corporate Development Plan

Mark Robinson moved and Bill Markus seconded a motion to recess the Economic Development Commission Meeting at 7:15 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss the Eureka V LLC litigation with David Grogins, Town Counsel and Rudy Marconi, First Selectman. The motion passed 7-0.

The Executive Session was closed and the Economic Development Commission Meeting was reopened at 8:20 p.m.

Paul Levine moved and Bill Markus seconded a motion to table discussion of the Bennett's Pond Corporate Development Plan and hold a special EDC meeting on Friday, April 3, 2009 to give members additional time to study the specifics of the Town's 2002 Bennett's Pond Development Plan prepared by Planimetrics. The motion passed 7-0.

Bob Knight moved and Mark Robinson seconded a motion to adjourn the Economic Development Commission Meeting at 8:22 p.m. The motion passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Wolnick, Secretary