

Town of Guilford
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018
5:00 PM
Guilford Town Hall-First Selectman's Meeting Room, 2nd Floor

Please note: Minutes are not final until approved at subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Ms. Wendy Dockray, Mr. David Egan, Mr. Damian Gunningsmith,
Mr. Michael Meisel, Mr. Michael Orce, Mr. Fran Paranto,
Mr. Theodore Sands, Vice-Chair and Mr. Mark Wasserman, Chair.

Others: Mr. Robert Hartmann.

Town Staff: Mr. Brian McGlone, Economic Development Coordinator.
Ms. Katherine DeBurra, Recording Secretary.

Mr. Wasserman called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

1. Communications & Public Forum (Limited to 5 minutes).

None.

2. Approval of the April 3, 2018 minutes.

Motion: Upon a motion by Mr. Egan and seconded by Mr. Meisel the Economic Development Commission voted to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Tuesday, April 3, 2018, with the following correction:
Pg. 5. Item #10.

Adjourn; the Motion was seconded by Dockray.

In favor: Dockray, Egan, Gunningsmith, Meisel, Orce, Paranto, Sands, Wasserman.
Opposed: None.
Abstained: None.

3. Economic Development Coordinator's Report. (Brian) (Inserted)

Mr. McGlone, Economic Development Coordinator reviewed his report as submitted to the Commission in email. (Inserted)

Key comments for the month:

Business Update-

- **U Haul** – Public Hearings were closed after two meetings. P & Z is expected to have a “discussion meeting”, probably outside of a normal P & Z meeting to discuss and review all information obtained. This will aid them in structuring motion(s) to vote on (For or Against). P & Z has up to 65 days to make their decision.
- **Amerone Restaurant** – has submitted a Site Plan Application to P & Z for outdoor seating (approximately 7' X 24'), in front of their location, on the Water Street side.
- **Former La Rosticceria location** – to become CT Grill, specializing in hamburgers and hot dogs, quick take-out service. Expected to open mid-May.
- **Former Perk on Church** – closed but will be re-opening. I believe it will be run in a similar manner (breakfast and lunch). Don't know more details yet.
- **Guilford Yacht Club** – pursued and successfully obtained a Zoning change, allowing a Restaurant open to the public in their location. They will be coming to P & Z with a Coastal Area Management Site Plan Application to take this to the next step. There is some concern as to what constitutes areas open to the public. They MAY have to identify an area, beyond the Public Restaurant, allowing the public access without coming to the restaurant. This presents a concern to GYC and might stop the project.
- **Shoreline Chamber Activities** – participated in Ribbon Cutting for Pressed and Dressed, Business After Hours at Barnum Capital Management, Net 90 Breakfast and Business Breakfast Presentation from Sid Gale on “Regional Governance-Not an Option but a Necessity. Also, interviewed for a brief film to

be aired during the Governor's Conference on Tourism on May 9, an all- day event, focused on driving tourism to the State and our towns.

- **SCORE** – met with local representatives from SCORE who are interested in expanding their visibility and support to Guilford businesses. I routinely publish announcements for SCORE workshops that occur within our town (Guilford Fire House).

- **REX / REDFO** – visited “MakeHaven” (in New Haven), a community makerspace which educates and empowers people by facilitating independent interest driven-projects, hands on experiences and access to equipment and technology. The idea is that once an entrepreneur has developed a concept, they will stay locally and grow, requiring facilities, employees and other resources.

- **Tweed New Haven Airport** – very much in the news as there is a movement to lengthen the runway (within the current boundaries of the airport) that would expand the number of carriers flying out of Tweed, along with several new destinations. We are following the status/progress as many believe this will contribute to the economic growth of our region.

- **P & Z Update** – per their guidelines, a new Executive Committee was voted on; Phil Johnson-Chair, Frank D’Andrea – Vice Chair, Dick Wallace – Secretary.

Projects –

- **Ramp Signage Project** – DOT has essentially approved our sign concepts. However, the State is reviewing their “Adopt a Ramp” regulations and may place more burden on the user for maintenance and repairs of the total exit ramp. Our representative will visit the sites with us on May 10 to get a better understanding as to where we want the signs placed. He is also exploring “Wayfinding Regulations” to determine if more latitude exists with sign placement.

- **Parking Lot Project, St George Church** – due to the Easter season and other critical issues, our information has been delayed in being reviewed. Review is underway and we should hear something within 2 weeks.

- **Business Anniversary Recognition** has been confirmed for Tuesday May 8 at 8am. Invitations have been sent out to 11 businesses and non-profits. RSVP's due this week. Needless to say, all EDC members are encouraged to attend.

- **Guilford Tree Lighting**, sponsored by EDC, Park & Rec and Shoreline Chamber has been scheduled for Friday, Nov 30, 2018, 6pm start.

Mr. Wasserman opened discussion concerning the signs asking if the Guilford Commons could have a sign added on the Highway to direct consumers to that location. Discussion.

4. Chamber of Commerce Report. (Ms. Sheri Cote)

No Report. Ms. Cote was not in attendance at this meeting.

5. Chairman's Report. (Mark)

Mr. Wasserman will discuss his report under Item #8; Old Business.

6. Sub-Committee/Board Liaison Reports.

- Town Forum (Gunningsmith, Paranto)

No Report. Updates at a future meeting.

- Town Profile on State Film site (Meisel, Dockray)

Ms. Dockray stated this item is progressing, with much work being accomplished. . Report at a future meeting.

- Land Acquisition Committee (Paranto)

Mr. Paranto stated there was no meeting this month. He confirmed that the house next to the Community Center was purchased for further expansion at that area. Suggested options may include additional parking for the Community Center and use by another Town office for Town services.

- Signage (Meisel, Egan)

Mr. McGlone included updates on this in his report. Discussion.

- Parking (Sands, Paranto, Orce)

Mr. McGlone included updates on this in his report. Agreement with St. George's Church is being reviewed by their legal counsel. Discussion.

Ms. Dockray suggested that the parking spaces be offered to the merchants with permits and reserved spots to make all more responsive to this idea.

7. New Business

None.

8. Old Business.

Mr. Wasserman opened discussion with the Members and Staff of the EDC Commission about a change in time for the EDC Meeting to 8:00 AM in the morning. He and Mr. McGlone attended the Branford EDC Meeting (7:30 AM) and the Madison EDC Meeting (7:30 PM). He stated that he thought an earlier time of day would encourage better attendance from business owners and possible membership on the Commission. Discussion. He asked for input from the current Members and Staff.

Motion: Upon a motion by Mr. Wasserman and seconded by Mr. Sands the Economic Development Commission voted to change the Meeting time to 8:00 AM on the first Tuesday of the month.

Discussion.

Mr. Wasserman asked Ms. DeBurra will find out the availability of the current room meeting location. Selectman's Meeting Room-2nd Floor. Further discussion concerning updates to the Membership list on the website. Ms. DeBurra will contact the Selectman's office (Ms. Traci Brinkman) to update this.

MOTION TABLED.

Mr. Wasserman thanked Mr. McGlone for the work he had done to complete the upcoming awards ceremony for next week.

- 2018 Awards.

Mr. McGlone confirmed the date of Tuesday, May 8, 2018 with a breakfast meeting to give out the awards at the Community Center. He asked that anyone attending please let him know and to be there by 7:45 AM. Discussion.

9. Approval of bill (s).

Motion: Upon a motion by Mr. Meisel and seconded by Mr. Gunningsmith the Economic Development Commission voted to approve the invoice for Secretarial Services for the month of April for the Regular Meeting for \$68.00 for Ms. Katherine DeBurra, Recording Secretary.

In favor: Dockray, Egan, Gunningsmith, Meisel, Orce, Paranto, Sands, Wasserman.
Opposed: None.
Abstained: None.

10. Adjourn

Motion: Upon a motion by Mr. Meisel and seconded by Mr. Paranto, the Economic Development Commission voted to adjourn the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2018 at 6:09 PM.

In favor: Dockray, Egan, Gunningsmith, Meisel, Orce, Paranto, Sands, Wasserman.
Opposed: None.
Abstained: None.

Next Meeting; Tuesday, June 5, 2018 @ 5:00 PM.

Respectively Submitted;
Katherine DeBurra
Recording Secretary