

**Town of Guilford**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 5, 2018**  
**5:00 PM**  
**Town Hall - Selectmen's Meeting Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

*Note: Minutes are draft until approved at the subsequent meeting.*

Members Present: Chair Mark Wasserman, Vice Chair Theodore Sands, Wendy Dockray,  
Damian Gunningsmith, Michael Meisel, Michael Orce, Fran Paranto

Absent: David Egan  
Brian McGlone, Economic Development Coordinator

Guests: Robert Hartmann, resident  
Joseph Katucki, resident

Town Staff: Judy Anderson Castellano, Recording Secretary

Chair Mark Wasserman called the regular meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

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

There were no comments.

**2. Approval of the May 1, 2018 minutes.**

*Motion: Michael Meisel moved to approve the May 1, 2018 minutes as presented,  
seconded by Wendy Dockray.*

*Vote: In Favor : Dockray, Gunningsmith, Meisel, Orce, Paranto, Sands*

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

Chair Wasserman reviewed Brian McGlone's monthly report emailed to the EDC :

**Key comments for the month:**

Chair Wasserman advised that the Guilford Events magazine included an article written by Brian McGlone featuring new local businesses, which he referred to report.

## Business Update-

- **Amarone Restaurant**  
Has opened with outdoor seating and a special menu on Wednesdays.
- **Chapter One**  
This restaurant opened June 6, 2018 and is located at the former "Whitfield's" restaurant. This is the second location for the Mystic, CT eatery.
- **Tracy Country and Coastal**  
This clothing retail store has now opened next to Tracy2 on Whitfield Street.
- **350 Goose Lane**  
Construction of a 16,000 sq. ft. building is underway and a 24,000 sq. ft. office space will begin construction in a couple months.
- **2772 Boston Post Road**  
Construction is underway for a ten unit apartment building with occupancy expected by the end of 2018.
- **Agemy Financial**  
This firm is under construction at the former Wire Journal location by Exit 57. The building will house the financial firm and leased office space, ranging from 700 sq.ft. to 4,000 sq.ft.
- **66 High Street**  
Steel framing construction is underway for the second new building the "Leete Building" at this location. Occupancy will be available in 2019.
- **U-Haul building application**  
At the June 6, 2018 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at 7:30 pm, there will be a vote on whether or not to approve the U-Haul application to construct a building on Boston Post Road. Public Hearings have been held on this application and this meeting will not allow further public comments. Some EDC commissioners will attend this meeting. EDC is in support of the U-Haul application and expects that appeals will be submitted whether the application is approved or denied.

## 8. Old Business

- **EDC meeting time**

Upon further review of last month's discussion to change the time of the EDC meetings,

*Motion: Michael Meisel moved to change the EDC meeting time to 8:00 am (on the first Tuesday of the month) and update the 2018 meeting schedule calendar, seconded by Theodore Sands.*

*Vote: Carried - Dockray, Sands, Meisel, Gunningsmith, Orce  
Opposed - Paranto*

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

Sheri Cote was not present to report.

## 5. Chairman's Report. (Mark)

There was no new information to report.

## 6. Sub-Committee/Board Liaison Reports.

- **Town Forum (Gunningsmith, Paranto)**

Fran Paranto reported on the EDC plans to hold a public forum. EDC will invite local businesses and Town officials, including Town Planner George Kral, Health Dir. Dennis Johnson, Design Review Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Inland Wetlands Commission. The purpose is to share information on ways to be mutually supportive for success and provide EDC with Action Items. Further discussion will take place at the July meeting.

- **Signage (Meisel, Egan)**

Chair Wasserman reported :

- Brian McGlone had met with a representative from the CT Dept. of Transportation (DOT) to review the State of CT "Way-Finding Guidelines" and requirements for destination signage at Interstate Route 95 exit and entrance ramps in Guilford.

- EDC must submit applications for each sign to CT DOT to determine feasibility and obtain approval.
- Funding will be needed to create and install signs through grants and private sources.
- The design is being done in a manner so that CT DOT will be able to cut the grass.

Chair Wasserman expressed EDC appreciation for Brian McGlone's "fantastic job" on this project thus far. A subcommittee will be formed to pursue funding sources.

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

Wendy Dockray and Michael Meisel reported that they have a powerpoint presentation of the photos to be presented to the EDC and then sent to the State of CT Film site to be included on the State website. EDC will review at the July meeting.

(At 6 pm Michael Meisel left the meeting)

### **9. Approval of Bills**

*Motion: Theodore Sands moved to approve the May invoice for \$77.63 for Recording Secretary Katherine DeBurra, seconded by Fran Paranto.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

(Return to 6. Subcommittee Reports)

- **Parking (Sands, Paranto, Orce)**

There was no new information.

- **Land Acquisition Commission (Paranto)**

Fran Paranto reported :

- The house and property next to the Community Center has been purchased by the Land Acquisition Commission. Property use will be decided at a later

date. Suggestions include expanding the current parking for the Center activities and the house for Town offices.

- A five Lot subdivision will be built on Podunk Road.
- Vigliotti Contracting will subdivide six Lots at the former Smith Tree Farm on Long Hill Road.

(At this point, Theodore Sands left the meeting)

## **7. New Business**

Chair Wasserman recommended creating two EDC welcome letters to be sent to new businesses and residents. These would provide information on the EDC responsibilities and projects, as well as, basic information on Town services and offices, local stores, restaurants, businesses, annual community events, and be distributed at offices and community events.

Chair Wasserman and Michael Orce will compose a draft for EDC review. They will contact the First Selectman's Office to request whether EDC can add these letters to the Town of Guilford tourism brochures.

## **10. Adjournment**

*Motion: At 6:30 pm Fran Paranto moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michael Orce.*

*Vote: Carried - Paranto, Orce, Gunningsmith, Dockray, Wasserman*

Next Meeting : Tuesday, July 3, 2018 @ 8:00 AM.

Respectively Submitted,

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*Judith Anderson Castellano*

Recording Secretary