

PLANNING & ZONING
COMMISSION
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TOWN HALL ANNEX
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2009

PRESENT: Sally Poundstone, Chairwoman, Bas Nabulsi, Secretary, Alice Ayers, Dona Pratt and Town Planner Robert Nerney

ALSO PRESENT: Atty. Casey Healy, Richard Andrews, Terry Parker, Greg Smith, Kevin Foley and John Block

Chairwoman Poundstone convened the off-site meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the "Hanson House", 20 Westport Road.

Atty. Healy led a tour of the Hanson House building, explaining that the structure is owned by Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association, College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF) and currently leased to Deloitte-Touche. Atty. Healy explained that the vacant structure had previously been used by Deloitte-Touche as a cafeteria and meeting room space. An independent group has approached TIAA-CREF with a proposal to sub-lease and establish a conference center catering to smaller to medium-size business and non-business functions. Atty. Healy further explained that non-business functions, such as weddings, would likely be held during weekends so as to avoid conflict with ongoing office operations.

Commissioners queried Atty. Healy with regard to the availability of parking as well as potential land use conflicts with other business tenants. The Commission urged Atty. Healy to think not only about the site under consideration, but the DE-10 district in general. The Commission suggested the prospective applicant consider and determine the appropriateness of other ancillary functions commonly associated with conference centers, such as sleeping accommodations. Atty. Healy stated that his client would most likely engage the services of an outside planning firm to work with the Commission and town planning staff.

No decisions were made and Chairwoman Poundstone adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.