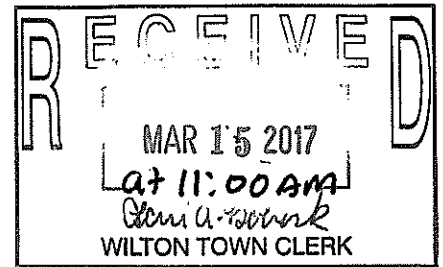


Wilton Economic Development Commission
Wednesday 3/8/2017, 7:15PM
Comstock Room 31



Attendees: John Kelly, John Clasby (left at 9:00), Phil Lauria, Gil Bray, John Wilson, Vivian Lee-Shiue, Dan Berg, Tracy Serpa, Brad Unger (at 7:30), Jennie Wong (at 8:03).

Absent: Jim Jarvie, Peter Hubbard

1. Call to order – meeting called to order at 7:18PM
2. Approval of February 22 Minutes – Phil Lauria moved to approve the minutes, Gil Bray seconded the motion, and the motion was approved 6:0
 - Dan Berg, Tracy Serpa and John Wilson abstained due to absence at prior meeting, and Jennie Wong absent from vote due to late arrival.

NOTE: We had two unplanned guests (Suzanne Knudsen and Linda Schmidt) from the Garden Club show up, who requested a few minutes on our agenda to discuss the hanging baskets in Wilton Center. We allowed them to speak up front so that they could leave if they did not want to stay.

- Two guests from Garden Club spoke about the hanging baskets and the removal of funds from the budget to water the plants (P&R usually waters). They requested help from the EDC on ideas on how to keep the program going. The EDC informed them that we do not have funding or resources to push this effort forward but provided suggestions such as “Adopt a Basket” or a funding appeal. It was recommended that they reach out to P&R to find out what is involved with the watering (i.e. if they raise funds, how would the process work).
 - Vivian Lee-Shiue deliberately noted that this is outside of the scope of work of the EDC, as we need to remain focused on revenue building ideas for the town.
3. Old Business
 - Proposal for business hour extension – the proposal to extend hours that restaurants can serve liquor was approved unanimously by the BOS. Public hearing will occur 3/27 and will go to town vote in the Spring.
 - Metro North Danbury Line Update – update provided on the testimonial provided to Gail Lavielle for the purposes of ensuring that the budget item was not stricken from the state budget. Next steps are TBD.
 - Merwin / Schencks committee update – Dan Berg provided an update. Some questions on the scope of the group came up. See their committee minutes for any additional details.
 - Commission Strategic Plan – Vivian Lee-Shiue, Phil Lauria and Brad Unger ran through the rough draft of the strategic plan flow. Additional work is required through the working group.
 - Marketing Working Group Update – Jennie Wong provided a first draft of the video being worked on by WHS. She noted that this is rough version that needs additional editing, and voiceover/music, and asked for feedback. Both additional guests (Sara Curtis and Melissa (no last name provided)) provided some feedback on their first impressions.

- Signage update – group has been established and tentative first meeting is 3/30.
- Website wrapper – no update

John Clasby left at 9:00

4. Other Topics

- Brainstorming for Grand List Growth – not done due to time

5. Adjourn – with no additional business, John Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, John Kelly seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously carried.