

Minutes of the Suffield Economic Development Commission
March 21, 2013 – Town Hall – 8:30 a.m.

Members present: Howard Orr, Roger Tracy, Gloria Smith, Lynda Montefusco, Caroline d’Otreppe
Absent: S. Thorner, Brian Banak Also present: Patrick McMahon, EDC Director, guests Michael Lauren, Andrew Lauren

Chairman Howard Orr called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes – Mr. Tracy moved to approve the minutes of the Feb. 21, 2013 meeting; the motion was seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Ffyer Place Redevelopment – Mr. Lauren and the Commission discussed aspects and possibilities for Ffyer Place.

Mr. McMahon noted that the Town has retained Sage Engineering to do a feasibility study for a new highway garage that could be built on Town properties. The Town should prepare a mitigation plan if it has to address issues after the Phase I Study has been completed.

Bridge Street School – The Town has planned a series of Open Houses of the School for the residents, the week of April 23. Open Houses are planned in the daytime, at night, and Saturday so that residents may have the opportunity to come and review the school building. Fact Boards will be available. The Town will hold a Public Forum – Suffield Speaks, Tuesday, May 14, 2013 in the High School Commons. The Forum will be directed by an outside facilitator. It is hoped that a consensus for the use can be reached or at least a ranking of suggested uses. The University of Hartford engineering students will present their findings at the EDC meeting in April.

Light Industrial Development - The extension of utilities (funded by \$980,000 State grant) down Rt. 75 is progressing slowly. The Chamber of Commerce is updating its website.

Kent Memorial Library ADA Project – The Town will apply for a grant from CDBG for \$700,000 for the ADA Library Project. The Library has funded the cost of the architect, Tecton for the design development. This project will provide additional parking spaces, some of which will be handicapped accessible on either side of the building on the ground level.

Board of Finance Budget Review – Mr. McMahon reported that the Board of Finance has reviewed its budget; the change was an increase of \$30,000 to the Business Infrastructure line item, now totaling \$60,000.

After a brief discussion, Chairman Orr directed Mr. McMahon to write a letter of support to the Zoning and Planning Commission for the possible use of bus parking/storage on the Piccolo property on the west side of Route #75.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary

EDC.March.21.2013.minutes

