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Dannel P. Malloy

Director
Michael W. Freimuth



CITY OF STAMFORD

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MINUTES
COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE ZONE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF Monday, February 5, 2007

TIME: 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: 888 Washington Blvd.
Mayor's Conference room (10th floor)

ATTENDEES:

Enterprise Zone Board

Gregg Karas
Rick Fedeli, Co Chairman
Jack Condlin
Gene Dohmann
Elaine Mitchell
Linda Cannady
Tom Failla
Michael Freimuth

Economic Development Staff

Lenora Cavaliero

Enterprise Zone Representative

Sha Quan Yokono, CTE
Tonya Irby

Co-Chairman Rick Fedeli called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes:

The Board approved the Minutes of September 11, 2006.

Enterprise Zone Update:

Mike Freimuth presented the Board with a current Enterprise Zone map that reflects the current road system and the listing of individual street names. This information will be put on our city web site to accommodate inquires regarding the street names in the Enterprise Zone.

Also discussed was Arcadia Architectural Company that has approached the Enterprise Zone Board to discuss the expansion of their business. They are

faced with parking problems, zoning issues, and title issues that may manifest itself into a neighborhood issue as well. Freimuth recently met with the owner and in their discussion, the owner said he would revisit these issues and he would like to come back to the Enterprise Zone for support.

Rick Fedeli brought up another issue regarding the property on Bonner Street that has been purchased by Laidlaw. The property houses 3 multi-family homes and a 4th lot serves as a driveway. Fedeli reported that at a recent Waterside Community meeting noting the attendees were very concerned and confused why this property was sold to Laidlaw. Mike Freimuth suggested to the Board that he would set up a meeting with the Community and Laidlaw to discuss the concerns of the neighborhood.

Creative Metal of 331 Selleck Street is another company that was faces with barriers to an expansion of their company and has moved into space located on Courtland Avenue. Because they could not grow on their current site and had to move out of the enterprise zone, the City worked with them to stay in Stamford, and secured a special waiver granting enterprise zone benefits to them at the new location.

However, the previous space occupied by Creative Metal became available for another Enterprise Zone company to expand.

During 2007, 8 companies (that includes Purdue Pharma) are faxing out of the program, but another 8 new companies are coming into the program.

General Business:

Board Member Tom Failla, and Sha Quan Yokono of CTE, are developing an ESL Program for low-income residents for Stamford, who are isolated from employment, social and recreational programs due to a language barrier. They expect to serve 70% Spanish speaking and 30% Haitian Creole. The two neighborhoods targeted for this project are the South End and Waterside, which make up the Enterprise Zone.

ESL's goal is to provide non-English speaking residents of Stamford the English proficiency language skills that will allow them to find and maintain jobs and also move out of poverty.

Community Economic Development Fund

Donna Wertenbach, President CEDF provided an overview of the Small Business Loan Pool partnered with the Stamford Partnership and the West Side of Stamford. Using the West Side of Stamford as their model they will provide a grant to the neighborhood group and work with them on what they would like their neighborhood to look like.

The concept is to go into the neighborhood and expect them to tell CEDF what they want their neighborhood to look like in 5 years. The CEDF group will complete the assignment by providing consulting firms assigned to the neighborhood and have the neighborhood residents make the final choice of a consultant.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next meeting will be held on April 23, 2007 in the Mayors Conference room at 5:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Lenora Cavaliero
Enterprise Zone Secretary

Approved minutes of Monday, February 5, 2007 Community Enterprise Zone meeting adopted at May 7, 2007 meeting..