



**Economic Development Commission**

**Branford, Connecticut**

## Meeting Minutes

**June 15, 2022**

Joe Trapasso Community House - Church St – Branford

**Present:** Cathy Lezon (Chair), Elena Cahill, Frank Hird, John Leonard, Rich Sgueglia, Alisa Waterman, Dee Jacob (Shoreline Chamber), Perry Maresca (Staff)

**Call to Order:** Chair Cathy Lezon called the meeting to order at 8:01am.

**Approval of Minutes** May Minutes: Motion to accept by Rich Sgueglia; second by Frank Hird. Motion carried.

### **Reports:**

**Staff Report: Branford Festival** is this Friday 6/17-Sunday 6/19. **Music on the Green** paused for the 16th but resumes Thursday 6/23, with Jazz kick-off the following Thursday 6/30. **Chase Bank** is open with **Aldi** expected to open by 6/23. **Stony Creek Brewery's** first business expo slated Saturday 6/25. Opportunity for small businesses to display their wares. Only a few spots left. Town Center Merchants **Sidewalk Sale** 2<sup>nd</sup> week of August with expected dates from Wednesday 8/10 thru Sunday 8/14. Movie with scenes filmed in Branford: **Northern Shade**. CT Premiere is Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> at 8pm at the Bow Tie Criterion Cinema 86 Temple St. New Haven. Additional showings 7/14 and 7/21.

**Planning & Zoning:** "Proposed Amendments to the Branford Zoning Regulations" revised thru May 19, 2022 incorporating the practice of supporting Solar Energy with efforts designed to make it simpler and faster during the application process. **Branford's Affordable Housing Plan** was adopted. **Bluepoint Apothecary LLC** 471 East Main Street Special Exception- Hybrid Retailer Cannabis Establishment Application #22-4.5 PH continued to 6/16/22. **230 East Main Street** requesting Convenience Store (Unit 1) & Pizza/Deli (Unit 2) **803-873 West Main Street** requesting a Tae Kwon Do School **257 East Main Street** requesting a Food Truck Park.

**Chamber:** Dee Jacob- Membership continues to increase with nine new members. Over 120 attended the last event. On June 27<sup>th</sup> the Chamber is hosting a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at their new offices. Green spaces for the Artisan Market set for Saturday during the Branford Festival is sold out! Summer on the Shoreline electronic mailer is launching today (6/15). Still awaiting decision from Branford on their request for business development program.

**Selectman's Report:** None

**Old Business:** Commission will revisit the Business Recognition Awards for future meetings. The forum presented by the Clean Energy Committee and EDC at Stony Creek Brewery yielded positive response from attendees, with additional information noting “micro-projects” of \$20,000 or less can often get 75%-80% of its costs recouped. Featured article by Pam Johnson in Zip06 expected in The Sound as well.

**New Business:** Federal Government has approved “Regional Funding Units”. Connecticut has nine units/regions. The South Central Regional Council Of Governments will be assisted through the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce for Branford and the surrounding towns.

Correspondence: Demolition notice from Cherry Hill Construction for 110 North Main Street as a result of damage by fire. No objections from Commission.

No Public Comment.

**Announcements:** Next Meeting = July 20, 2022

**Meeting adjourned** @ 8:36a. Motion by John Leonard and seconded by Rich Sgueglia

Respectfully submitted,

Perry Maresca

Staff

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**Perry Maresca · Economic and Business Development Manager**

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Elena Cahill · Al Canosa · Frank Hird · John Leonard · Richard Sgueglia · Alisa Waterman  
First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove [ex officio]

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