

NORTH SMITHFIELD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

PRESENT: Michael R. Dowling; Robert E. Nault; Kenneth L. Peloquin; Alfred S. Puccetti;
Bernice F. Salzberg

ALSO: Robert B. Lowe, Town Administrator; Michael Phillips, Town Planner; Scott A.
Gibbs and Michelle M. Godin of New England Economic Development Services,
Inc.

ABSENT: None

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion: Planned Corporate Zone

Gibbs reported that he will provide revised text to Mike Phillips for the Ordinance Review Committee meeting in October.

Update: Web Site

Peloquin stated that there was nothing new to report about the web site. Lowe mentioned that the Town's new web site should be active by October 1, 2008. Peloquin requested that the Town's web site present a link to the Commission's web site, which should aid in awareness of the site.

Peloquin suggested visiting a North Smithfield business to learn of their operations and featuring that business on the Commission's web site, as was done with Banneker. Following discussion it was agreed that Puccetti would contact Wright's Dairy to arrange a tour of their facilities and to learn of their expansion plans. Nault suggested that any press releases be sent to Providence Business News in addition to the local outlets.

Update: Branch Village District

Lowe indicated that Gibbs and Town Planner Tom Kravitz of Burrillville spoke before the North Smithfield Town Council about the establishment of a redevelopment agency to implement the Branch Village revitalization plan. Gibbs said the Town Council adopted the Branch Village revitalization plan and the next step is implementation of the plan; otherwise, the plan is simply a planning document. According to Gibbs, the Town Council wants to view the organization structure of a proposed redevelopment agency. Therefore, it will be necessary to engage legal services to prepare Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. Gibbs said Flaherty would like the Commission to redirect \$2,500 to \$5,000 of funds from the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund to pay for the legal work.

Gibbs said he tried to communicate to the Town Council that public funds will need to be expended if the proposed redevelopment agency is going to be successful in its mission to revitalize the Branch Village District. There was discussion about potential issues concerning the structure of the organization and discussion about reporting mechanisms.

There was discussion about the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund. Phillips agreed to provide the fund balance and a copy of documents pertaining to the establishment of the fund.

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Update: Commercial Developments

Phillips reported that the tire company interested in Sam Brickle's property selected a location in Connecticut. Furthermore, Phillips reported that Stop & Shop is still planning to build, and is presently addressing the issue of water pressure for adequate fire protection. There was mention of the Subaru expansion and Holliston Sand & Gravel. Also, Phillips said Dowling Village received its RIDEM permits and has submitted plans to the Planning Board for Phase II and III. Puccetti requested that Phillips provide a copy of the peer review for the fiscal impact study related to the Dowling Village project. Phillips agreed to provide a copy. There was mention of the Cornforth property being for sale, the Gold property that the Town would like to purchase for Open Space, the Homestead property and the pending sale of the Jehovah Witnesses' property on Eddie Dowling Highway.

Phillips asked that the Gold property be placed on the agenda for the next Commission meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. Peloquin
Chairman