

**Town of Ridgefield  
Economic Development Commission  
Meeting – November 9, 2009; 7:00 pm  
Town Hall Large Conference Room**

Approved Meeting Minutes

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

In attendance: Bob Knight, Paul Levine, Magdalena Fincham, Bill Markus, Rick O'Brien, Mark Robinson, Chris Fisher

Guests—Rebecca Mucchetti, Chairman Planning and Zoning Commission

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Weir Farm- M. Fincham

Magdalena had a follow up conversation with Linda Cook. Ms. Cook is asking the EDC to help with find an alternate 10,000 square feet space for storage and office space. Talks with the abutting property at the Wire Mill about the potential for a land swap have not been successful. She is interested in having another property on Rt. 7. Miscellaneous discussion followed about potential properties. The other item Ms. Cook would like assistance with is the signage at the Branchville Train Station. Ms. Fincham will do some leg work to find out who Ms. Cook would need to contact and get in touch with Ms. Cook.

2. Riverbend project update- M. Fincham

Magdalena meet with Michael Greenberg (potential manager) to get his feedback. He thought a market survey to determine whether there is an interest in Ridgefield of "green building". Ridgefield Press indicates it will be doing a feature article in the business section regarding this within the next week or so.

3. Balducci's- M. Fincham

Magdalena reached out to Attorney Rex Gustafson to offer the EDC's assistance with renting the Balducci's property. Attorney Gustafson is awaiting a proposal from a potential tenant. Attorney Gustafson said if the EDC had any potential tenants please let him know. Miscellaneous discussion followed.

4. Ridgefield Economic Development Plan Draft Work Session

a. Commission comments

Bob Knight thanked Mark Waterhouse for all his help on the draft plan. As drafted, public and Board buy in will be needed and plan will need to be resilient to changes that may occur in Town Government. A discussion followed regarding Commission comments from all members present. Members agreed that the overall plan is very detailed and ambitious. The overall plan may not be realistic in scope. After discussion, it was decided that all member will forward comments to Bill Markus. Bill will then forward all comments to Mark Waterhouse for changes. Additional discussion was had regarding changes to the plan and which of the 13 actionable items where high priorities.

b. Project tasking and timeline

This item will be discussed at the half day work section.

5. Web site

Due to time, this item was not discussed.

6. Scheduling of Special Meeting with Mark Waterhouse

A half day work section will take place on Friday, December 4, 2009 from 1 – 5 at the Leir Center.

**Paul Levine moved and Bill Markus seconded a motion to adjourn the EDC meeting at 8:29 p.m.  
The motion passed 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Tracey Buckley, Secretary