

**Town of Ridgefield
Economic Development Commission
Special Meeting
November 21, 2011; 7:00 pm
Town Hall Upper Level Conference Room**

Unapproved/Unrevised Minutes

In attendance: Joy Strand, Arnold Light, Mark Blanford, Bob Knight, Chris Fisher
Absent: Paul Levine

Bob Knight called the meeting to order at 7:11.

Schlumberger update with Rudy Marconi

Rudy Marconi is not available tonight. They are moving forward with the purchase. There is a buyer for the buildings. Table until further notice.

Town of Wilton presentation

Presented to Wilton what it takes to build an EDC. There's room to work together. Wilton is very happy to have Ridgefield's presentation. Viewing Rt. 7 same as Ridgefield.

Rt. 7 Redevelopment

Gateway

Paul is managing process. Paul worked with Bob Costello. They are working with Rt. 7 owner in northern area.

Branchville

Presentation with property owners. The form was successful in help dispel myths. They laid out some short term action items. Hard to go before Planning and Zoning agenda, but might be a good idea to go before them with what we have. Joy has been working with Affordable Housing Commission. They have established a person to work directly with EDC.

Look at some data from the surveys. People are really behind open space. People are not behind mixed used buildings. There has been little comment on Rt. 7/35. Joy suggested to go to PTA and Rt. 7 schools. Miscellaneous discussion followed.

IWOW

Arnold has held several meetings with the Chamber. The page that is on EDC website should be put on the Chambers website. The intention of IWOW was to give it to the Chamber. Arnold suggested to have co links on websites. In order to draw some clients may want to have ad space on search engines. Motion from Chris Fisher to move from with transition of IWOW to Ridgefield Chamber of Commerce. Motion seconded by Mark Blanford. Motion carried 5-0. Marlboro New York has developed a way to give people breaks on taxes. Arnold will look further into this. Miscellaneous discussion followed.

EDC Vice chair

Bob has been talking with Joy to become vice chair or co chair. Mark, Chris and Arnold agree. Mark Blanford motioned to make Joy co chair. Seconded by Bob Knight. Motion carried 5-0.

Dates for EDC retreat

The retreat will be on December 5th or the 12th.

Interview EDC candidate

Candidate had a family emergency and is not available.

Motion to adjourn 7:58 pm made by Mark Blanford, seconded by Bob Knight. Motion carried 7-0.