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155 Deer Hill Avenue
Danbury, CT 06810

Danbury Main Street Partnership

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 4, 2013 – 4pm

City Council Chambers

Next regularly scheduled meeting: May 2, 2013

Members Present: Mayor Mark Boughton, Ingrid Alvarez-Dimarzo, Mike Kallas, James Maloney, Marie O'Neill, Paul Reis, Warren Levy, Andrea Gartner, Shawn Palmer

Members Absent: Steve Bull

Staff/Guests Present: Joanne and Bruce Hunter – Art Spot, Lisa Scails – Western CT Cultural Alliance, Dennis Elpern – Planning and Zoning Director, Sharon Calitro – Deputy Planning Director, Bruce Tuomala - Economic Development Director, Roger Palanzo – Mayor's Office, Sean Hearty – Permit Coordinator, Manny Carreras, John Deering

The meeting was called to order by Mike Kallas at 4:10pm.

Approval of minutes from March 7, 2012 meeting. Motioned to accept by Andrea Gartner; Seconded by Shawn Palmer. Unanimous Approval.

New Business:

A) Presentation by the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut – Lisa Scails and Bruce and Joanne Hunter of The Art Spot

- Cultural Alliance of Western CT office located in the Danbury Chamber of Commerce building at 39 West Street, Danbury.
- The Alliance serves to enrich the community by promoting the arts, striving to support and create a vibrant downtown environment and encouraging economic development.

- Approximately \$130 million dollars generated from the arts in Fairfield county last year.
- Sponsoring Be Social – Breaking Barriers fundraising event in cooperation with City Center Danbury. June 7th, 2013 On the Green, Ives Street – 6:30pm.
- Mural project proposed for downtown Danbury near Kennedy Park. Ceramic mural wall art created by local artists and led by Joanne and Bruce Hunter. Joanne As mural coordinators they will create a personalized art piece similar to their previous projects in Waterbury and Bridgeport.
- Mural completion by Summer 2014.

B) Dennis Elpern – Planning and Zoning Director; Report DRZ topical suggestions:

- Store front churches – Normal use zoning and permitting. Is concerning that the DRZ houses nearly 15 ‘storefront’ churches to date with another 6-8 possible on 2nd floor locations. Difficult to isolate storefront churches from traditional church structures and operations.
- Laundromats – Can be limited within CBD.
- Social Club/Fraternal Organizations – Can be limited within CBD.
- Hotel/Motels - Can be limited within CBD. Would encourage hotels and B&B discourage motels.
- Assisted Living & Care - Can be limited within CBD.

C) Sean Hearty – Permit Coordinator – Addressed entertainment licenses for the DRZ. 17 out of 19 businesses and organizations have responded positively and the remaining should be submitted shortly.

D) Mayor’s Update

- Merchant Meeting – Two Steps, April 10, 3pm.
- Plans moving forward for development of the rest of 2 Main Street property.
- PriceRite on schedule. Late Spring opening planned.
- Mad Hackers Social Media Conference moving forward.

E) Other New Business

- Jim Maloney indicated that progress in the development of the old police station property continues to move forward. Should be before the planning commission before Summer.

Motion to Adjourn – Mike Kallas, Seconded – Ingrid Alvarez-Dimarzo. Unanimous Acceptance.

Meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm