

Town of East Hartford

Development Department
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2-17-22

Redevelopment Agency

A Special Meeting of the **EAST HARTFORD REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY** was held in the Welling Conference Room of East Hartford Town Hall, on Wednesday, February 17, 2022.

1. Call to Order

Chair McCreery called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Ellen McCreery, Chair
Gerry Maine, Vice Chair
Tony Matta
John Ryan

Absent:

Others in Attendance:

Eileen Buckheit, Development Director
Michael Daniels, Economic Development Coordinator

Goman & York team:

Mike Goman
Denise Robidoux
Don Poland
Brandon Mejias-Wasyl

Assistant Chief of Police Mack Hawkins (arrived at 12:50 PM)

3. Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes of regular meeting, 1-20-2022.
Motion by Mr. Maine, seconded by Mr. Ryan, approved.

4. Silver Lane Revitalization Area Redevelopment Plan

Ms. Buckheit introduced the team from Goman & York, which was selected at the previous meeting to assist in creating a Redevelopment Plan for a revitalization area on Silver Lane. She said the plan will help to build upon ongoing developments at the Showcase Cinemas site and at Rentschler Field. Mr. Goman said he has already been working closely with the Town on the Jasko Apartments project at the Showcase Cinemas site.

Dr. Poland said the first step is identifying the specific area that will be included in the redevelopment plan. Ms. Buckheit said the area should probably stretch to at least Rentschler Field in order to include potential development parcels and signage opportunities at the intersection of Silver Lane and East Hartford Boulevard North, and perhaps a parcel at the corner of Silver Lane and Warren Drive. The members discussed other properties that may be included, such as a medical office at 677 Silver Lane, the Futtner Farm properties, the parcel owned by the Roncalli Institute at 780 Silver Lane, Silver Lane Plaza, and Charter Oak Mall. Dr. Poland said he suggests limiting the amount of residential properties included. Goman & York will prepare a map with the proposed area and circulate it to the members before the next meeting.

Dr. Poland suggested that an overlay zone may help to simplify the many zoning designations and lot sizes in the area. Ms. Buckheit said this would be consistent with a recommendation in the Milone & MacBroom Silver Lane Revitalization Plan.

There will need to be a public outreach meeting. Mr. Matta asked at what point in the process this will take place. Dr. Poland said that it will be after Goman & York prepares existing conditions and conceptual ideas, in order for the public to provide feedback on these. The members discussed setting a date for the public outreach meeting in late March or early April.

Ms. Buckheit recommended scheduling a special meeting prior to the next scheduled meeting on March 16th. The members decided to schedule a virtual special meeting for March 9th at 12:00 noon.

Chair McCreery asked about public safety issues at and around convenience stores impacting redevelopment areas such as this one. Assistant Chief Hawkins happened to arrive shortly after and said the Police Department is aware of these issues and is working to address them.

5. Project Updates

Ms. Buckheit said that a resolution for the Habitat for Humanity project at 550 Burnside Avenue will be presented for consideration at the March 16th meeting.

6. Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Matta, seconded by Mr. Maine, approved 12:57 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Buckheit
Development Director

cc: Town Clerk
Development Department