

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATORS REPORT 11/18/2010
Submitted by Joseph Seacrist

1. Detailed updates under new business on:

**Griffin School
Sealy Property
Heritage Woods Subdivision**

- 2. On November 2, 2010 Chuck Frigon, Joe McGrail and Joe Seacrist met with the senior staff at CERC at their offices in Rocky Hill. The agenda was to discuss ways in which CERC might be able to help the Town of Watertown Economic Development Commission develop a comprehensive marketing strategy for the commercial, industrial and retail development of the town. During the wide ranging session, much discussion was had concerning the problems/opportunities which face Watertown.**

It was decided that CERC will present the town with a proposal in several parts, each of which could be individually adopted by the town. The parts should include a communications plan for gaining support of the community, a Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities and Threats analysis, and a statistical analysis of the possible Town of Watertown economic development opportunities.

- 3. Frank Nardelli, Town Financial Director has notified us that there is approximately \$900 remaining for economic development from a larger grant given to the town several years ago during the Rowland administration. Such a grant could be used for CERC membership fees or other uses as directed by economic development.**
- 4. The CEDAS (Connecticut Economic Development Association) of which we are a member will hold its annual meeting and holiday party on December 2, at 3:00 pm at the Whinstone Tavern at the Stanley Golf Course in New Britain. The business meeting will take place from 3:00-4:00 followed by a reception and then the holiday party from 5:00 until 7:00. Costs to members is \$20.00 each. Registration deadline is November 29.**
- 5. At the direction of the EDC Joe McGrail sent a letter (attached) to Peter Dorphalen, Executive Director of the Central Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments indicating the support of the Watertown Economic Development Commission for the draft report on the Regional Naugatuck River Greenway Study for the Town of Watertown.**

- 6. The P&Z commission has scheduled a special meeting on Wednesday of this week to Consider accepting Site Plans and Special Permit Applications for development in the Medical and General Business (B-MG) Zoning District. This meeting could effect the construction of a medical building at the corner of Buckingham and Echo Lake Road.**
- 7. Working with the Waterbury Chamber of Commerce for the replacement of the ancient “Welcome to Watertown” sign on the Watertown/Morris border on route 63. Trying to determine whether DOT permission will be needed to remove the current sign and have it replaced with a new one.**
- 8. Spoke with the owner of the “Shirt Bakery” to welcome him and his business to Watertown.**



November 4, 2010

Peter Dorphalen
Executive Director
COG of Central Naugatuck Valley
60 North Main Street
Waterbury CT 06702

Dear Peter,

At its last meeting on October 21, 2010, the Watertown Economic Development Commission voted unanimously to support the Town of Watertown portion of the draft report of the Regional Naugatuck River Greenway Routing Study, prepared in September of this year.

We believe this project will only help to encourage more economic development not only for the Town of Watertown, but the entire region

My understanding is that the Watertown Town Council has also formally endorsed the draft proposal but I felt it was important for us to add our voice of support to this very worthwhile project.

May I ask you to send a copy of this endorsement letter to the other partners in the production of the report, namely ALTA, FHI, and Fuss and O'Neill.

Sincerely,

Joseph McGrail
Chairman
Watertown Economic Development Commission

CC: Charles Frigon, Watertown Town Manager
Watertown Town Council Members
The Watertown Planning and Zoning Commission
The Watertown Economic Development Commission