

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT 1/11
AND 2/17,2011
Submitted by Joseph Seacrist

1. Received a ballot for the EDC to vote on concerning whether or not we would be interested in voting for the formation of a regional Economic Development District (EDD) which would prioritize projects and funding for the state department of Economic and Community Development.
2. Responded to CERC which was looking for 100 acres of developable land for manufacturing anyplace in Connecticut. Referred them to available spaces in the Business Park.
3. Talked with a business owner in Terryville who is considering occupying or building a 50,000+-sf building in Watertown and who wants to know about incentives we might offer.
4. A new restaurant in town has been approved by the P&Z. called Tomo Japanese Restaurant which will be located in the shopping center between Burger King and Triple Play restaurant.
5. Joseph Yamin has been notified by P&Z that his application for elderly housing in the former Griffin School has reached its 5 year termination date, if not renewed.
6. The Cercemaggiore Club, better Known as the Oakville Villa has received permission to add a 30X30 foot pavilion, a bandstand and two connection shelters to its current property.
7. The P&Z has approved the site plan application for the use of the former Hemingway School property as a Town Hall.
8. The Town council has approved the application for a \$150,000 STEAP grant to extend town sidewalks from the

- Main Firehouse on Main Street to the corner of Straits Turnpike and Main Street (G'sburgers).**
- 9. The Connecticut Nurseryman's Association will hold its annual state-wide meeting at Veteran's Park in the Summer. There will be many booths for nursery and gardening supplies open to the general public.**
 - 10. Responded to an inquiry for a manufacturer looking for 5,000 to 18,000sf with walk-in refrigeration and/or freezer capacities.**
 - 11. Helped several local companies locate local firms who would be interested in contracting for snow removal from their roofs.**
 - 12. One Main Street business owner is vacating his space on Main Street because of lack of business.**
 - 13. The Watertown/Oakville Chamber of Commerce's annual legislative breakfast is scheduled for later this month at the Siemon Building in Watertown.**
 - 14. Helped the Town Engineer with contacts in the business community who might be affected by the proposed Naugatuck River Greenway which will be built through Watertown.**
 - 15. Met with the Town Manager and Lynn McHale, a local merchant, concerning ways the Economic Development Commission may help local businesses with their promotion.**
 - 16. Attended a P&Z zoning commission meeting where I spoke in favor of two projects which were on their agenda for the evening. One was the Tomo Japanese Restaurant and the other is the proposed commercial development at the corner of Straits Turnpike and Bunker Hill Road.**

- 17. Heard of a local merchant who might be interested in selling his Main Street Watertown property. It could be considered for a potential additional municipal parking lot.**
- 18. The Town of Watertown has purchased a piece of property behind the Steel Brook Commons building all the way to behind Economy Tire for use as a portion of the Watertown Greenway.**
- 19. Worked with a local developer to get his available property in the Steel Brook Commons listed on the CERC site finder as part of our CERC membership.**