

**VILLAGE OF DEVON REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes of January 10, 2008 at the M. Egan Center**

Committee Members Present

Speaker J. Amann  
Senator Slossberg  
C. D’Arcangelo  
Bishop J. Ramirez  
E. Ditchkus  
C. Eaton

Also Present

John Hammer,  
Milone & MacBroom  
M. Ozols, Legislative Aide  
R. Gregory, Director of  
Community

Aldermanic Liaison

Alderman Hardiman  
Alderwoman Manning

P & Z Liaison

K. Rose

Press

Brian McCready, NH Register

- I. In the absence of the chair, Ms. Ditchkus called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.
- II. The minutes of the meeting of October 11, 2007, were accepted as presented.
- III. The Chairman’s report was tabled.
- IV. Old Business

A. Welcome to Devon

Alderwoman Manning inquired about the Adopt A Spot program. After some discussion, Senator Slossberg will contact Ray Macaluso regarding the program and participation by Devon businesses.

B. Devon Day – Summer Events

Mr. Gregory referred the Committee to the minutes of the Devon Day Committee. A fundraiser will be held at the Bridge House Restaurant on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

### C. Proposal for Property Acquisition for Parking

Mr. Gregory referred the Committee to the survey of the lot at 120 Bridgeport Avenue that determined the exact dimensions. Using the correct dimensions, the parcel could only accommodate 12 parking spaces. Mr. Gregory also noted the tight budget to complete Phase III and recommended that no action be taken at this time. Bishop Ramirez inquired if an option to buy could be obtained. Mr. Gregory will find the answer to that question.

(Speaker Amann arrived but allowed Ms. Ditchkus to continue to chair the meeting.)

### D. Streetscape – Phase III

John Hammer from Milone & MacBroom (M & M) said that the design was 85-90% complete. He said that the plans do not include the pattern intersection at the junction of Naugatuck and Bridgeport Avenues because of the possible drainage work on US 1. Options for the intersection include imprinting a design in asphalt or pavers. After reviewing the plans, the Committee did not approve of the fountain design. Ms. Ditchkus was designated to work with M & M on the design. Mr. Hammer said that the plans were subject to review by DOT. Speaker Amann said he would expedite the process. A meeting with DOT is scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Gregory said that easements and right-of-entry agreements must be obtained from every property owner. His office was charged with that responsibility. One of the problems would be recalcitrant landowners. A number of people in the audience volunteered to assist in obtaining permission from the landowners.

The timeline for the project was discussed. Mr. Gregory felt we were slightly behind schedule. The Speaker said that he wanted the project completed this year. Mr. Hammer and Mr. Gregory said that although we were slightly behind schedule, the work would be completed this year.

A question was raised regarding curb cuts. Mr. Hammer said that all curb cuts that could be eliminated would be.

A question was raised about façade treatments. The Committee said that a façade program will be forthcoming

but in the interim they would work with landowners who wished to upgrade their property and provide guidance.

#### E. Planter Arms

Ms. Eaton presented a design for planter arms that could be also used for banners. She said that there would be approximately 35. Not every pole would have an arm. Discussion was held on the design. Ms. Eaton estimated the cost at \$12,250. Discussion was held on the banners.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the design and purchase of the planter arms.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The Speaker noted that he and the Senator were putting in funding for the next phase of Devon development.

#### V. New Business

Discussion was held on the Smith Craft decision to withdraw their proposed project from Devon. Reasons given were the change in the economy, parking, and expected opposition.

Discussion was held on issues with the Planning and Zoning Board and the Building Department.

Bishop Ramirez said that we should be working together to accomplish proper development. Kudos were given to Chris Saley for developing the Bridge House and the owners of M-Bellish. All expressed the need for better communication between developers and the city boards and commissions.

A complaint regarding the condition of the road after sewer construction was lodged. The city and state will be contacted to review the work.

Mr. Hammer said that Bridgeport Avenue will be striped for parking on both sides. Crosswalks will be delineated where there are traffic signals.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.