Town of Trumbull
Economic and Community Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Trumbull Town Hall

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Economic & Community Development Commission of the Town of Trumbull was held at the Trumbull Town Hall in the Long Hill Conference Room on October 6, 2026, at 6:30p.m.

Attendance

Members Present:	Beryl Kaufman, Chairman Justin Scheuble, Vice Chairman Evelyn Zamary, Secretary Fred Petrossi Leyla Fayyaz Philip Reardon Jr Robert Martini
Members Absent:	Marshal Marcus Patricia Borghesan
Also Present:	Rina Bakalar, Director of Economic & Community Development Denise Zenevitch, Clerk Trumbull Community Television

Chairman Kaufman called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the September 1, 2026, special meeting minutes was made by Secretary, Evelyn Zamary and seconded by Commissioner Fred Petrossi. The motion carried unanimously.

Welcome two new commission members, Philip Reardon and Robert Martini. Both shared their background and commitment to the community.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Kaufman noted the largely positive coverage of Trumbull in the newspapers as of late.

Director's Report

Direct Bakalar provided highlights on recent small business openings and ribbon cuttings. Arthur Ave Deli has already opened. She has heard terrific results from the first few weeks of opening and is working on opening ribbon cutting. Mi Scusi also just opened. Director Bakalar will be visiting them soon. She has seen excellent reviews. She also mentioned that Salt Box Provisions has just opened and a ribbon cutting will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

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Trumbull Mall Update:

There has been progress toward a potential sale of the mall, and this will play out over the next few months. Director Bakalar reported on the parking deck complaints on the Target side of the mall. The mall is resurfacing the decks. They are working to complete before holiday season.

Upcoming Events:

The Annual Business Breakfast will be held on Friday, November 13th. We are currently working on the planning details, and more information will follow. The event invitations will go out next week so if you know of anyone in our business community that should be invited, please feel free to extend the invitation. We encourage you to be our ambassadors and send them the invite. Kindly cc Denise so that RSVP's and follow ups can be managed.

The Main Street Dollars Program is a small but mighty program which is very well received and popular with the residents. Program will run this year. We are in the process of lining up sponsors. We will also be reaching out to several additional businesses to join the program. We will provide additional information at the November meeting.

Development & Planning:

A development subcommittee has been established to help build understanding of the development process, opportunities and activities in town. A document that we have used before has been revised which outlines the development process for people to reference. Director Bakalar asks Commission members to provide feedback.

Director Bakalar discussed the two properties on Monroe Turnpike. Commission members expressed frustration over the appeals that have delayed major development projects. Commissioner Fayyaz asks if residents have any power over these developments. With a Town of almost 40,000 people, she wanted to know if the 40,000 people united have power over one property owner. Director Bakalar responded that the people have legal rights to appeal and once they file the appeal, it must go through the legal process.

Director Bakalar clarified the commission's purpose and added that the commission should be involved in the process advocating for development and new business. Director Bakalar reinforced that letters of support or against or to testify at the hearing should be one of the many things the commission should be doing. When the Commission testifies for or against something, it carries weight.

Director Bakalar highlighted that she takes a personal approach for small business start-ups and that it is helpful to have the commission be of any support of these businesses as they establish their business. She confirmed that business support documents and flyers have been created and are available on the website as well as the office and wants the Commission to share in increasing the communications of these documents.

Director Bakalar shared that the Lake and Main gas station has an issue with the gas company who put the gas line in the wrong place and not where the developer wanted. This is a private sector

issue, and they are working together to rework the plans. This is holding the project up from completion.

Director Bakalar shared the town does not have information yet for the St. Joseph's property. A meeting will take place soon to understand what they are considering for the property. She explains that in the meantime, the Town is researching and collecting information for this property because there are complexities to the property to prepare for that meeting. She states that this could be a very nice future project however it will be a while before anything can be entertained.

Commissioner Fayyaz asks about two lots of land next to Physicians Health Associates that are currently for sale. Director Bakalar confirms that they are zoned residential that could be expansion of long hill green, residential and/or commercial in the future.

Commissioner Reardon asked if Reservoir and White Plains Rd was approved. Director Bakalar confirmed that it was approved. She states that the building is commercial on the 1st floor and residential on the 2nd floor for 1-bedroom apts.

Commissioner Petrossi shared a positive of how Henkle's project moving greatly. He states that Henkle should be a model in terms of project process because of how they are well prepared and organized. Director Bakalar said that Henkle is a gem and wonderful to work with. She noted they know what they are doing and that they are bringing jobs and tax reviews to the town.

BRBC Update:

Commissioner Petrossi thanked everyone for Vickie's address to the business community. He stated that it was well attended, and her message was clear, consistent and transparent. He provided information regarding BRBC events. The BRBC will hold the annual national civics bee for 6,7,8th graders, that are eligible. More information will follow. On December 10, 2026, the BRBC will hold the Annual Leadership Awards at the Trumbull Marriott. Director Bakalar stated that The Bridges event was great. Commissioner Petrossi expressed thanks for the partnership with the Trumbull Economic and Community Development Commission for we are stronger together.

Opportunity for Community Input

There were no members of the public present during the meeting.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:49p.m. by Vice-Chairman Scheuble and seconded by Commissioner Petrossi. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Zenevitch, ECDC Clerk

Cc: Rob Librandi