



**City of Danbury
155 Deer Hill Avenue
Danbury, CT 06810**

Danbury Main Street Partnership

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 4, 2014 – 4pm

Conference Room 3C

Next regularly scheduled meeting: January 8, 2015

Members Present: Mayor Mark Boughton, Mike Kallas, Jim Maloney, Andrea Gartner, Marie O'Neill, Warren Levy, Paul Steinmetz, Steve Bull, Jack Deering,

Members Absent: George Psarofagis, Lambert Shell

Staff/Guests Present: Dennis Elpern – Planning and Zoning Director, Bruce Tuomala - Economic Development Director, Roger Palanzo - Mayor's Office, Dawn Reshen-Doty – Benay Enterprises, Brigid Guertin – Danbury Museum and Historical Society

The meeting was called to order by Mike Kallas at 4:04pm.

Approval of minutes from October 2, 2014 meeting. Motioned to accept by Marie O'Neill; Seconded by Andrea Gartner. Minutes unanimously approved.

Public Comments: NONE

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

- Andrea Gartner expressed excitement over the Naugatuck Valley Community College expansion downtown. The college will occupy a 20,000 sq/ft space at 186-190 Main Street.
- Jim Maloney announced that the Connecticut Institute for Families' downtown Danbury Community Health Center's planned construction at the site of the old Danbury Police Station is nearing approval. With a State of CT grant approval of

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\$4,000,000 now secured including 2014 commitments received of \$14.55 million in Federal “New Market Tax Credits”, they are now in position to schedule their closing

- Dawn Reshen-Doty of Benay Enterprises introduced herself to the Partnership. She presented invitations to the Downtown Danbury Monthly Merchant Mixer Holiday Event being held tonight, December 4, 2014 at the Empire Building, 155 Main Street Suite 211, 2nd floor. Dawn and Benay Enterprises hosted the inaugural Downtown Merchant Mixer earlier this year and are once again excited to host the 2014 finale.
- Brigid Guertin of the Danbury Museum and Historical Society updated the Partnership on their activities and operations.
 - The Museum has welcomed over 7,000 visitors through its doors since January 2014.
 - The Museum and Historical Society maintains and operates seven unique structures within the City. They include the John and Mary Rider House, the Dodd Hat Shop, the Old King Street Schoolhouse, the Marion Anderson Studio, the Little Red Schoolhouse, the Charles Ives Birthplace and the main museum, Huntington Hall.
 - In addition to the Holiday Shop at Huntington Hall, the museum has three other special fundraising events to support the ongoing efforts of the Museum.
 - “Decorate Danbury” Will encourage residents to decorate their property to show their holiday spirit. Promote via social media.
 - Holiday Tea @ the Ryder House.
 - Hat City Ball – Friday, January 16, 2015.
 - Check website for details on all events - www.danburymuseum.org

Mayor’s Update

- Very happy to welcome the Naugatuck Valley Community College expansion on West and Main in Fall, 2015. Mentioned it would be remarkable to turn around this property and be in operation by this date.
- While construction operations have begun at the Greystar project at Kennedy Avenue, the formal groundbreaking event has tentatively been scheduled for March 2015.
- Encouraged everyone to come out and celebrate Danbury First Night 25th Anniversary on New Years Eve!
- Wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm. Motion by Paul Steinmetz. Second by Jim Maloney. Unanimous approval.