

April 23, 2020

EDC activities - Planner's Report

: Planning for the 2020 Farmers' Market season has needed to take a very different direction due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff and the Operating Committee are looking at different models to employ that will reduce the exposure to staff, volunteers, vendors and guests, but still honor the Market's mission to support farmers and provide local products to the community.

: Staff continues to monitor and be involved with the Capriland's Probate Court matter. Probate hearings and court proceedings continue to unfold. The architectural and engineering consultants have completed the conditions assessment report and reimbursement has been sought with the State Historic Preservation Office. The RFP to seek a new adaptive re-use for the site was released in early March. The deadline for response is May 11.

: Staff and the PZC Subcommittee appointed to prepare the revision to the Plan of Conservation and Development have completed the draft text. All of the required notices and referrals have occurred and public hearings will begin on May 26.

: Up to early March, Staff continued to work with the Coventry Village Partners and the further development of the organization. However, the COVID -19 pandemic has put a pause on the bi-weekly meetings that were being held with the participants. The Daffodil Daze event planned for April 25 was cancelled.

: Work continues with AdvanceCT (formerly CERC) and the member towns to prepare the Regional Economic Development study. The first draft has been distributed and town staff is finalizing comments on the document. A public meeting using the Zoom interface to roll out the Plan will occur to share the results.

: Staff continues to serve on the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Economic Development Committee. It has been very challenging as of late for the Chamber, due to the pandemic. Fundraising events, regular Chamber monthly events and standard business support have not been able to occur.

: Staff has been monitoring and sharing information from a variety of sources with the businesses in the community so that they can be aware of programs and resources to help support them during this difficult time.

: Staff is working with the Creative Living Community of CT (CLCC) to submit a Neighborhood Assistance Act application with the State of CT which will enable them to construct an 'educational' greenhouse on their property. CLCC is seeking approximately \$130,000.00 of funds to support their first phase of their project.