



# TOWN OF THOMPSON

Planning & Development

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REGULAR MEETING- MSRAC  
Mill Sites Redevelopment Advisory Committee (MSRAC)  
Friday, January 8 – 9:00 AM  
VIA ZOOM

Recording: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84451234567>  
Passcode: sQK%9Lie

Members Attending: J. Blanchette – Chair, B. Davis, J. Hall, S. Lewis, N. O’Leary, R. Waldron  
Others Attending: K. Beausoleil, BoS; T. Penn-Gesek, Director of Planning & Development; A. St Onge, BoS

## MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER – 9:00 a.m.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. November 13, 2020 Regular Meeting

B. Davis moves/S. Lewis 2nds to approve the minutes. Passes unanimously

### 3. CORRESPONDENCEa. None

### 4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

K. Beausoleil comments that the proposed parking configuration for Swanson Park looks good. Regarding drainage at Thatcher Rd, this is an issue that the Town has been aware of. Responsibility is actually the State’s (CT Water).

### 5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

#### a. Eastern CT Land Bank mtg 12/11/20

MSRAC members spoke at the meeting at length. Members Blanchette, Lewis & O’Leary had dialed in, along with the Planner and the First Selectman. The presentation shared the background of MSRAC and made clear that MSRAC would like ECLB to keep 630 Riverside in mind as they select projects to take on.

#### b. Committee membership/number of members

There is general discussion of the number of members permitted. Currently set at 7, after some exploration of available notes from the April 2012 BoS meeting that enabled the committee, it is determined that there is no number set by ordinance or charter. The possibility is raised of adding members, since there are residents that have indicated interest. Raising the # of members also raises the # required for a quorum. K. Beausoleil points out that adding alternates does not raise the quorum requirement. That is found to be a favorable solution.

B. Davis moves to add 2 alternate members, with the stipulation that alternates are empowered to participate fully in discussions. S. Lewis 2nds. S. Lewis further asks what the process would be to add those alternates. There is a volunteer form available on the town website. Once an interested person submits the interest form and is approved by the

committee, it is passed up to the BoS to formally recognize the appointment. Passes unanimously.

c. Volunteers for Affordable Housing working group

T. Penn-Gesek recaps that DOH awarded a \$15k grant for the development of an Affordable Housing Plan to conform with CGS 8-30j in late June/early July 2020. DOH published guidelines for plan development in December 2020, so an RFP will be published today to solicit a consultant to work on the project. As part of that project, a working group will be formed. Project duration will be through June 2021. There are some volunteer committees whose members would be particularly valuable in the working group: MSRAC, PZC, Housing Authority Commission, EDC. MSRAC members are asked to indicate their interest. Work will start around the beginning of March.

d. Other Committee Business

None additional

6. MEMBER COMMENTS

None additional.

7. ADJOURNMENT – 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyra Penn-Gesek – Director of Planning & Development