

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 23, 2012
MINUTES
(Draft Copy – Subject to Revision)**

Chairman A. SanAngelo called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Economic Development Commission to order at 7:30 P.M. .

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: A. SanAngelo, E. Korzon, J. Betkoski, Clare Pusateri, Jeremy Rodorigo, R. Bradley and D. Sorrentino.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT:

MINUTES

C. Pusateri made motion to approve the Minutes from the March 26, 2012 Monthly Meeting as presented, 2nd by J. Betkoski. All aye.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No Public Comment at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. D. Sorrentino noted he had attended the COG meeting and brought a copy of a letter sent by the COG with regard to the Waterbury Branch Rail Line Construction and Public Access to the Naugatuck State Forest. Commissioners expressed concern about no accessibility for emergency vehicles if they are needed in the State Forest, where many people use for various activities. Commission will ask the DEEP to look into this. J. Rodorigo noted the DOT owns this road.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Commission would like to seed the Town's website address listed somewhere in the mailing of the Town's July tax bills. Clerk will check with Tax Collector about this.
2. A. SanAngelo thanked J. Rodorigo and C. Pusateri for doing a great job on the newest EDC Newsletter.
3. Continued discussion of Main Street parking. Commission would like to see more diagonal parking like what is in front of the Police Station. R. Bradley said he does not want to see tractor trailer trucks parked in front of his business as it presents a safety problem. Commission agreed there are some terrible sight lines on Main Street. E. Korzon would like to see the diagonal parking on the island

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side of the road. A. SanAngelo suggesting the Town Engineer to attend the May 29, 2012 meeting of the Commission. It was noted that the Board of Selectmen also serves as the Town's Traffic Commission.

4. It was noted a study is being done on the two (2) retaining walls on Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Commission would like to put together a brochure to show off the Town's assets. It was noted a folder with Beacon Falls economic information was put together several years ago. Clerk will look for them in the Assessor's Office. Possible partners in putting together this brochure could include the Conservation Commission and the Citizens for Tomorrow's Downtown. The Citizens Group might also be a possible source of some funding for this project. Clerk noted she is working on a grant to the Katharine Matthies Foundation to cover cost of printing and mailing of those brochures or pamphlets. J. Rodorigo said he would take some photos to use. Matthies Park, Toby's Pond and High Rock were mentioned as possible photo opportunities and stories. It was noted the Town has many possibilities for recreation including: kayaking, canoeing, fishing and hiking. It was also noted that Beacon Falls has a handicapped accessible entrance to the Naugatuck River.
2. A. SanAngelo noted that Kolga was the successful bidder on the Not Just Trucking Property and have sixty (60) days to complete the transaction. He noted they might be eligible to participate in the Enterprise Corridor Zone tax advantages. Kolga makes heat shields for nuclear plants in Japan.
3. C. Pusateri noted a brewery is coming to Stratford, noting that some Brownfield funds were earmarked to help clean up the property.
4. Election of Officers for the Commission will be tabled until the June 2012 Meeting.
5. Naugatuckriver.net can be accessed via the internet with regard to Earth Day news and events.
6. J. Betkoski noted the State of Connecticut is supposed to be a 'business friendly State'.
7. Discussion of traffic on Route 42 going North.
8. Commission has heard of complaints at property located across from Ansonia Steel. Letter will be sent to Zoning Enforcement Officer B. Herb asking him to look into that property, which appears to have a lot of junk on it.

BEACON FALLS MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

1. R. Bradley noted tickets for the upcoming May 5, 2012 Duck/Kayak/Canoe Race are going well. Some sponsorships have been purchased. Lioness S. Mis is coordinating the vendor spaces.

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STREETSCAPE ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Project should begin soon. Even though the walkway is currently a dead end, there are problems also in other areas in the Valley.

GRANT NEWS/UPDATES

Clerk has submitted a grant to the Matthies Foundation asking for funding to purchase park benches, trash receptacles and bicycle racks to be placed on the Streetscape Walkway.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Clerk's bill was signed by Chairman.

With no other business, **J. Betkoski made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. 2nd by J. Rodorigo. All aye.**

Due to the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday observance, the next meeting of the Economic Development Commission will be held on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen A. Wilson
Clerk for the Economic Development Commission
Regular Monthly Meeting – April 23, 2012

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