

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2012
MINUTES
(Draft Copy – Subject to Revision)**

Jeremy Rodorigo, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission called the monthly meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: J. Rodorigo, A. SanAngelo, E. Korzon, C. Pusateri, R. Bradley, J. Betkoski and D. Sorrentino.

ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

J. Betkoski made motion to accept the September 2012 Minutes as presented, 2nd by A. SanAngelo. All aye.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. S. Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, noted the Friends of the Library is sponsoring a Cupcake Decorating Contest on 11/10/12 at St. Michaels.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

BEACON FALLS MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

No comments at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

1. D. Sorrentino handed out information with regard to a cardboard boat race he had mentioned at the September meeting. Suggestion to ask the Rotary if they might be interested in running this project. J. Dowdell, representing the Rotary, said the club might be interested. R. Bradley said he would talk to the Valley Chamber about this also, as it might spark some interest in a competition between Towns. Commission felt it was a good idea to tie this event with the Annual Duck/Kayak Race and to try to have the event on the river as it would keep people in Town for all of the events. It was noted safety precautions would be strictly enforced. When M. Krenesky joined the meeting, he agreed to speak to the Rotary about this activity, adding maybe the cardboard boat event could take place in July to coincide with Family Day and perhaps be held at Matthies Park.
2. Discussion of keeping the gate closed in the State Forest. It was noted there will be a meeting with the DEEP and DOT, the First Selectman, Fire Marshal, Fire Department and the Police Department to discuss this gate closure, as it does eliminate an access the area in case of an emergency. One of the problems seems to be the proximity of the road to the railroad tracks as per the DOT. R. Bradley

and J. Betkoski will try to attend that meeting. Commission strongly stated that to close the gate is not acceptable! Suggestion made to contact Representative L. Green and Senator J. Crisco to help the Town on this.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A. SanAngelo presented pictures of Ashville, N.C. which showed what angled parking could like on Main Street, with E. Korzon noting Commissioners should take a look at downtown Stratford to see their parking. D. Sorrentino suggesting working with Public Works as he felt this is a doable solution to parking on Main Street.
2. C. Pusateri suggested that all Commissioners become pro-active in bringing new businesses to Town by making at least five (5) telephone to prospective businesses. Perhaps a campaign such as “the First Five in Beacon Falls”. J. Rodorigo noted he had spoken to a business based in New York and New Jersey who might be interested in relocating to Beacon Falls to the Cooper building on Lancaster Drive. They are a metal stamping business. There would be no hazardous materials present and he did speak to Fire Marshal E. Rodriguez about this. A. SanAngelo also mentioned the Enterprise Corridor Zone.
3. Kolga donated a furnace that burns waste oil to the Town. E. Korzon noted a local company can do powder coating for metal stamping.
4. J. Betkoski would like to have the Commission get an up to date inventory of what spaces are available in Town. A. SanAngelo noted we do use the services of the CERC Site Finder.
5. J. Rodorigo noted that R. Minnick has recruited the Fire Department who will be clearing a lot of the brush from the walkway so you will be able to see the Naugatuck River. This will take place on the 2nd weekend in November
6. S. Dowdell noted her discussion with the Bakery Owner indicated they are staying in business and are not closing.
7. New You Salon has closed.

GRANT NEWS

1. It was noted the Streetscape Enhancement Project is complete, with the State already having signed off on it. Commissioners noted that many people are using the walkway.

With no further business **J. Betkoski made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 P.M. 2nd by E. Korzon. All aye.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Wilson, Clerk for the Economic Development Commission – Meeting
10/22/2012

