

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
APRIL 22, 2013
MINUTES
(Draft Copy – Subject to Revision)**

Chairman Jeremy Rodorigo called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Beacon Falls Economic Development Commission to order at 7:35 P.M. .

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jeremy Rodorigo, Anthony SanAngelo, Edward Korzon, John Betkoski, Dominick Sorrentino, Clare Pusateri and Robert Bradley.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Susan Dowdell.

MINUTES

Minutes from the March 25, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed. **D. Sorrentino made motion to approve the Minutes as presented, 2nd by A. SanAngelo. All aye.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Susan Dowdell, 32 Wolfe Avenue, noted she is in process of applying to the Matthies Foundation for funding to reach out to businessmen to learn how to use Excel.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Flyer received with information about a Economic Development Conference to be held in September.

BEACON FALLS MERCHANT’S ASSOCIATION

R. Bradley noted plans for the upcoming Annual Duck and Kayak Race are processing nicely. Event will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2013. He has received verbal commitment with regard to the float plane. There will also be a ‘butterfly release’. J. Betkoski said he spoke with Dan Esty with regard to the closure of the gate at Cold Spring Road, adding that throughout his lifetime living in Beacon Falls he could not recall any type of accident occurring in this are. It was noted you still have to go through from the Naugatuck side to get to the shooting range. R. Bradley noted he is trying to gain get the use of the bandstand from the Park and Recreation in Waterbury, to use at the upcoming Duck/Kayak race.

OLD BUSINESS

1. J. Rodorigo noted the Commission has asked the Board of Finance for \$10,000 to be used for marketing the Town to attract business to locate here. Commission agreed it has to have a set plan in place on how to utilize the funds should they become available. Some targeted projects should be included as well as attendance at various Economic Development Conferences and Workshops. Commission consensus was that a part-time consultant be hired to serve as the Economic Development Coordinator for the Town, citing that many Towns in the area employ the services of such a person. Question raised if perhaps one of the other Towns' coordinators might be willing to work also for Beacon Falls. It was noted that Oxford, for example has at least 2,000 acres for development, while Beacon Falls space is limited. It was also noted that the Haynes project in Seymour proposes some type of a transportation center.
2. It was noted that currently a volunteer serves as the Webmaster for the Town's website.
3. Question asked if there a lot of rail cars are coming into Town, specifically at the Murtha Industrial Park.
4. A. SanAngelo noted there is not much new business coming into to Seymour and Oxford either, with all agreeing that not much new business is coming into the State as well. A. SanAngelo added that 'no one wants to come into Connecticut'. It was suggested that perhaps Kathryn Smith from the State might have some ideas. E. Korzon felt that every Town has to emphasis its own uniqueness. He also added it would be a good idea to give tax credits to a business.
5. G. Smith made a visit to the Beacon Falls Market, noting the Town would do all it could to assist the new Market owners. Clerk noted they would attend the 423/13 EDC Breakfast.

EDC BREAKFAST – TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2013 AT KOLGA, 65 LANCASTER DRIVE.

Breakfast will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, April 23, 2013 beginning at 7:45 A.M. Commission would like to see various presentations from some of the local business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A. SanAngelo noted that a draft has been done with the Plan of Conservation & Development. He added that Virginia Mason who recently retired from the CNVCOG will also assist the Town with this.
2. Short discussion on Affordable Housing, with questions raised about having affordable housing on or near the Chatfield Farms property, or at the 'Road to Nowhere'. D. Sorrentino noted that you cannot bring sewers through a private development.
3. Suggestion made to meet with the Shelton Economic Development Commission to get some ideas and help from them.

GRANT NEWS/UPDATES

None at this time.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Clerk's bill and expense invoice for Chairman A. SanAngelo were approved for payment.

With no other business, **J. Betkoski made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 P.M. 2nd by C. Pusateri. All aye.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen A. Wilson, Clerk of the Economic Development Commission
Monthly Meeting – April 22, 2013

