

**TOWN OF BEACON FALLS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
NOVEMBER 24, 2014**

**MINUTES**

Chairman Jeremy Rodorigo called the regular monthly meeting of the Beacon Falls Economic Development Commission to order at **7:30 PM**.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: J. Rodorigo, J. Betkoski, B. DeGeorge, E. Korzon, D. Phipps, R. Bradley

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: C. Pusateri

OTHERS PRESENT: First Selectman Chris Bielik

**MINUTES:**

Minutes of the October 27, 2014 monthly meeting were reviewed. **J. Betkoski made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by D. Phipps.** All ayes, motion passes.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

First Selectman Chris Bielik was invited to attend the meeting to discuss issues regarding the upkeep and condition of Town owned downtown property and facilities. The conversation covered landscaping issues, signage, crosswalks, and other topics.

E. Korzon spoke of the overall condition of the median dividers.

R. Bradley spoke about the advantages of a preventive maintenance program & having a proactive approach.

1<sup>st</sup>. Selectman Bielik asked that the fact that there was a new Road Foreman, a new First Selectman, and the Public Works Dept. is operating with 1 man down be considered when discussing the condition of the Downtown area.

J. Rodorigo stressed the EDC was not assigning blame to anyone, simply airing some concerns in an effort to work towards a common goal of beautifying the gateway to our community.

B. DeGeorge questioned whether privatization was the answer. 1<sup>st</sup>. Selectman Bielik stated that may indeed be a union issue.

R. Bradley spoke of the apparent lack of communication between Town agencies and commissions regarding the new crosswalk in front of the Senior Citizen Center. Mr. Bradley stressed the value of the various boards and commissions meeting on a regular basis to share info and ideas.

The entire EDC then thanked First Selectman Bielik for attending this evenings meeting and look forward to working with him and his office in the future.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chairman Rodorigo shared an email received from EDC Commissioner Clare Pusateri resigning from her position because of increased time demands of her full time job. **R. Rodorigo made a motion to accept, with deep regret, Clare's resignation. Seconded by J. Betkoski with similar regret.** All ayes, motion passed. The entire EDC thanked Clare for her time and talents and wished her well in all future endeavors.

### **BEACON FALLS MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION:**

R. Bradley stated the BFMA has been inactive of late and the organizations future is in question. Also, the 2015 Kayak race is doubt at this time.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. C.E..R.C. training to be rescheduled to early 2015.
2. Ad-Hoc Committee meeting w/J. Voket to be rescheduled to January 2015.
3. J. Dorosh states his new restaurant (the former Torriera's Rest.) should be open by Super Bowl Sunday in Feb. 2015.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. New Bakery and Breakfast Rest. opening soon by local family in the former Beacon Falls Bakery location on No. Main Street.
2. Chairman to contact State Rep. Theresa Conroy re: funds/grants availability for land acquisition.
3. New Art Studio opened recently in the Complex at 141 So. Main Street with an open house.
4. State D.O.T. / Rt. 42 retaining wall project discussed. State rebuilding median and fencing along the same stretch of road. Conversation ensued regarding possibility of tying extension of Greenway project in with it on the southbound side.

5. A motion made by D. Phipps and seconded by J. Betkoski to authorize E. Korzon to investigate pricing to hire outside firm to do downtown maintenance and upkeep. All ayes, motion passes.

6. J. Rodorigo made a motion to cancel the December/2014 meeting of the EDC. Seconded by R. Bradley. All ayes, motion passed.

7. B. DeGeorge states that work on River Banks to be continued by volunteers once warmer temperatures return.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

J. Rodorigo made a motion to go into executive session at 8:50 pm for personnel issues. Seconded by J. Betkoski. All ayes, motion passed.

Out of executive session at 9:10 pm.

The following motion was made by J. Betkoski and Seconded by R. Bradley:

**“The search for, and implementation of the “Economic Development Coordinator” position be suspended and monies for the position be reallocated to marketing endeavors.”**

All ayes, motion passed.

### **GRANT NEWS / UPDATES:**

None

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Clerk’s bill was approved for payment. R. Bradley made a motion to approve, Seconded by J. Betkoski. All ayes, motion passed.

With no other business, R. Bradley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm., Seconded by B. DeGeorge. All ayes, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter A. Christensen*

Clerk

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