

Litchfield Economic Development Commission May 28 Meeting Minutes – Approved Minutes.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM

Present: Betar, Boesch-Wages, Carroll, Dean, Fuessenich, Fishman, Parker (alternate), Vandenberg

Appointment of Secretary: Kay Carroll

Motion to approve draft minutes of April 29, 2015. Carroll 1st, Betar 2nd. Correction to minutes: draft minutes approved March 2015 NOT November 2014. Approved unanimously with correction. Fishman and Fuessenich abstained since they were not at the meeting.

Public Comment

Board member Fuessenich mentioned an event he attended in Warren. It was an open house for the public sponsored by Friends of Warren Schools. Cleve attended as an invited real estate agent with listings in Warren. The event was started by a group of young parents who are concerned about declining school enrollment. The idea is to attract young families with children to Warren. A side benefit would be to bring new volunteer for the Fire Department, etc. This might be an idea worth pursuing with the NWCOG to explore organizing for all of the towns with a different date for each.

Main Items

Business listings feedback from EDC interviews.

Heather Boesch-Wages: No responses to e-mails. General impression that the business climate in CT is negative. Nothing specific for Litchfield.

Monthly Economic Updates

Bantam:

- Ease Organic – 931 Bantam Road. Cultured dirt/sol. Opening in a week.
- Mockingbird Kitchen and Bar – scheduled to open late June
- Al Tavolo – opening something across the street
- Old Aerospace building - sporadic activity
- New Art Gallery in the restored blue house next to Bantam Borough Hall

Litchfield:

- Stop 'n Shop – law suit should be finalized within a few weeks
- Jail – The owner is working through the HDC process
- Meraki – a new eat-in/take-out restaurant in the space Hannah previously occupied
- Hometown Pizza has relocated to the space behind the Irving gas station

Old Business

- Borough sidewalks - Per David Dean, the Warden says the cost for the sidewalks is covered

Officer elections

Nominations

Chair: Heather Boesch-Wages

Vice-Chair: Cleve Fuessenich

Secretary: Rotating

Parker 1st, Carroll 2nd to elect the officer slate. Passed unanimously.

Parker 1st, Carroll 2nd adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Carroll