

LITCHFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

EDC Regular Meeting Minutes

Litchfield Town Office 74 West Street Litchfield, CT 06759
January 31, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Minutes (not approved)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Cleve Fuessenich, Chair.

Present - Regular Members: Renée Betar, David Dean, Cleve Fuessenich, Nancy MacMillan-Stedronsky, Pamela Orde, Paula Rolleston and Tom Roman; Beatrice Thompson (arrived at 7:20). Alternate Members: Anne Haas and Eileen Schmidt

Motion by D. Dean to approve draft minutes of November 29, 2017 regular meeting; N. McMillan-Stedronsky seconded the motion, which passed with one abstention, P. Orde.

Public Comment: Edgar Auchincloss (interested in becoming EDC member)

Monthly economic updates per region:

- Bantam:
 - Twenty2, custom wallpaper is opened by longtime owners, Kyra and Rob Hartnett.
 - Clothestree building is filling up.
 - West Shore Seafood is expanding.
 - Housatonic Trading Co. is moving.
 - Future of Bantam Annex: Discussion concerning the impact of various options for future use.
- East Litchfield:
 - Quiet time of year
 - Steve Case (Railroad Museum in Thomaston) wants to bring train to E. Litchfield but E. Litchfield does not yet have the right platform.
 - C. Fuessenich and Leo Paul spoke about Thomaston Rd. sewer issue, which is not likely to be resolved in the short- or long-term.
- Litchfield:
 - Litchfield welcomes Andrew Goldstein and Ideal Jewelers, which moved from Waterbury to the Green.

Old Business

- Litchfield POCAD initiative: no update
- Litchfield 300th Anniversary Committee:
 - No one is spear-heading the committee but activity continues by individual groups working on specific projects.
- Identification of business opportunities:
 - Gateway, an informal group of regional leaders from Litchfield, Washington, Kent, Cornwall, Warren and Goshen, is meeting to discuss the business corridor from New Milford to Litchfield and how collaboration among individual towns can impact economic development of individual towns. C. Fuessenich will be Litchfield's primary

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- representative for this initiative.
- Litchfield EDC joint meetings with areas EDCs:
 - P. Rolleston will contact Thomaston and Morris EDCs to set a date for a joint meeting to discuss feasibility of working collaboratively on common goals.
- Naugatuck Greenway Update: Tabled
- Ad hoc task force to meet new businesses: No update

New Business

- EDC calendar of speakers for future meetings
 - Suggested speakers whom P. Rolleston will coordinate include:
 - Jonathan Wilson (Derwin's) - February 2018 guest
 - Steve Casey (Railroad Museum of NE) - February 2018 guest
- P. Rolleston initiated a discussion to form *ad hoc* committee to explore criteria for new EDC members
- Idea of the month: New Ideas for potential products/services for Litchfield
 - E. Schmidt suggested new service to consider: podiatry services
 - R. Betar will keep list of ideas of the month
- On the occasion of David Dean's resignation from the Commission, C. Fuessenich expressed many thanks to David for his many years of leadership and service to the Litchfield EDC. All present whole-heartedly agreed.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by D. Dean; P. Rolleston seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Betar, Secretary, Economic Development Commission

Cleve Fuessenich, Chair, Economic Development Commission

Mission Statement (adopted 5/17/2011)

The Economic Development Commission will stay informed on economic conditions and monitor trends within the Town of Litchfield and make recommendations to appropriate officials and agencies. The commission shall also take action to improve said economic conditions and seek to coordinate with the activities of various related commissions and unofficial organizations to further Litchfield's economic development well being.