

LITCHFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

EDC Regular Meeting
Litchfield Town Office 74 West Street Litchfield, CT 06759
June 28, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Minutes (not approved)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Cleve Fuessenich, Acting Chair.

Present- Regular Members: Renée Betar, Kay Carroll, David Dean, Fred Colson, Cleve Fuessenich, Pamela Orde, Paula Rolleston, Tom Roman and Eileen Schmidt; Alternate Member: Anne Haas

Absent - Alternate Member: Doug Parker

Appointment of Alternates: None

Appointment of Acting Secretary: Renée Betar

Public Comment: James Rolleston, Litchfield resident and recent college graduate

Motion by D. Dean to approve draft minutes of May 31, 2017 regular meeting as corrected. Tom Roman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously as amended.

Motion by K. Carroll to approve draft minutes of June 14, 2017 special meeting as corrected. Anne Haas seconded the motion, which passed two abstentions (P. Orde and Fred Colson) as amended.

Monthly economic updates per region:

- Bantam:
 - Route 202 temporarily closed in section of Bantam business area from July 7-10 for bridge work. Business in this area could be negatively affected.
 - New tenants in Switch Factory
 - Bantam Cinema: Request to P&Z for single serve wine and beer.
- Litchfield:
 - Stop and Shop will open on June 30
- East Litchfield:
 - Chapel is getting a new roof and trees are being removed
 - Volunteer Fire Department is getting a new truck.
 - Railroad is regularly going to Torrington for events

Old Business

- Review of EDC web pages: no news
- Review of EDC by-laws
 - First selectman and town attorney have reviewed the EDC by-laws, which

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have an effective date is June 29.

- Motion made by David Dean to adopt EDC bylaws as approved by BOS and as reviewed by town attorney; K. Carroll seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- C. Fuessenich will circulate final version of by-laws to all EDC members.
- Food Hub update:
 - K. Carroll reported that funds for the Food Hub can be released on July 1 and the Food Hub will then assume the Torrington space. The first pilot year will include five farmers and five receivers. Management is getting requests from other farmers to participate.
- 300th Litchfield Anniversary task force:
 - Steering committee is scheduled to will meet on July 5 at the Litchfield Borough Office.
- Identifying business opportunities:
 - Aging in CT:
 - P. Rolleston will re-circulate explanation of why Litchfield needs to establish an ad hoc Task Force on Aging in CT. Members should read and send comments to Paula before next EDC meeting.
 - Discussion of future use of Bantam Annex. Suggested plans include keeping the post office, Parks and Recreation office and gym, as is, and turn rest of the space over to the Litchfield Housing Trust. Affordable housing could include all ages including seniors. Dissenting opinions were expressed.
 - No town-wide event planned for this year.
- LABA “Welcome to Litchfield” package:
 - F. Colson was thanked for getting the prototype completed. F. Colson handed off next steps to a newly formed committee, which includes P. Rolleston, E. Schmidt and P. Orde. Committee will have a production plan by the July 26 meeting.
 - EDC has earmarked 2016-2017 funds (\$500) for production of “Welcome to Litchfield” document.
 - Review of joint meeting of Litchfield and Morris EDCs
 - Meeting was positively received by both EDCs
 - Two projects for both EDCs to work on together are:
 - Bantam Lake
 - Litchfield 300th Anniversary
 - C. Fuessenich will call a second joint meeting, which will be hosted by Lee Losee at the Litchfield Borough Office.
 - Nominations for EDC elections include:
 - Chair: Cleve Fuessenich
 - Vice Chair: Paula Rolleston
 - Secretary: Renée Betar

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Election was held and nominations were elected as presented.

- Motion made by Pamela Orde and seconded by D. Dean to accept nominations as presented:
 - Chair: Cleve Fuessenich
 - Vice Chair: Paula Rolleston
 - Secretary: Renée Betar
- Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- Naugatuck Greenway Committee will meet in August. C. Fuessenich and E. Schmidt will attend.
- Superior courthouse building discussion: Tabled
- Motion made by P. Orde and seconded by P. Rolleston to thank Kay Carroll and Fred Colson for their contributions to EDC as each ends her/his current term on the EDC. Motion passed unanimously.
- Members will suggest speakers for future EDC meetings.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Betar, Acting Secretary
Economic Development Commission

Cleve Fuessenich, Acting 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.