

LITCHFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

EDC Regular Meeting Minutes (early draft for Renee)
Litchfield Town Office 74 West Street Litchfield, CT 06759
October 25, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Minutes (not approved)

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

Present - Regular Members: David Dean, Cleve Fuessenich, Pamela Orde, Paula Rolleston, Tom Roman and Anne Haas, Nancy McMillon

Absent - Alternate Member: Renée Betar, Eileen Schmidt

Appointment of Alternates: Anne Haas

Minutes – Paula Rolleston acting secretary in R. Betar’s absence

Motion made by Pam to appoint Anne as regular Member. D. Dean seconded. David Dean made motion to approve draft minutes of September 27, 2017 regular meeting, Pam seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

- Louis Lemieux owner of BluePrint - CT... invited to attend meeting to discuss ways businesses coming to Litchfield could better engage with the EDC including the much discussed “Guide”. Specific mention protocol vs. action.

Discussed creating a new “task force” (David, Nancy, Pam) to meet with new businesses including mentioned challenges and possible education. Other stakeholders might include landlords, realtors.

Monthly economic updates per region:

- Bantam: discussion of Blight Ordinance (David to get the Torrington version)
- East Litchfield: Elvis Halloween Party @ E.L. Firehouse
- Litchfield: Discussed opening businesses at the Old Jail.

Old Business

- Review of EDC web pages: no update
- Litchfield POCAD initiative: Topic “light Industry”- David to follow up on what it includes
- Litchfield 300th Anniversary: Lynn Brickley now only chair.
 - Ocean State Odd Lot on docket for old Stop & Shop building.
- Identification of business opportunities:
 - Ad hoc committee recommendation: Litchfield should create brochure to attract new businesses to Litchfield v. more brochures for new homeowners.
- Litchfield EDC joint meetings with areas EDCs:
 - Goal for January 2018... Set date and meet next meeting with Morris, Thomaston, Torrington,
 - D. Dean will contact Erin Wilson (Torrington ED Director) regarding joint meeting with

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Torrington EDC

- Naugatuck Greenway Update: Tom to go 11/8 to the regional meeting
- State highway signs
 - D. Dean will follow up
- NHCOG POCAD
 - C. Fuessenich sent Litchfield EDC's response to regional POCAD plan.

New Business

- EDC calendar of speakers for future meetings
 - Suggested speakers whom P. Rolleston will coordinate include
 - Jocelyn Ayers (NHCOG)
 - Steve Casey (Railroad Museum of NE)
- 2018 EDC Calendar
- T. Roman initiated discussion of requests by potential businesses for special zoning exceptions.
- AirBNB (new topic)

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2017.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Rolleston for 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.