

Jean Leonard, Chairman  
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## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

### NEWTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Newtown Economic Development Commission held a regular meeting on  
Tuesday, September 8, 2015, at 7:00 pm

Meeting Room #3 at the Newtown Municipal Center,  
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470

These minutes are subject to the approval of the Economics Development Commission

**PRESENT:** Mike Boyle, Bob Rau, Matt Milhack, Wes Thompson, Paul Fadus

**Also Present:** Betsy Paynter, Economic Development Coordinator

**NOT PRESENT:** Elana Bertram, Jean Leonard and Marty Gersten

**Bob Rau** called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

**Public Participation:** No public participation

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Matt Mihalcik motioned to approve the minutes of August 11, 2015 meeting. Paul Fadus seconded the motion and all were in favor. The minutes were approved as written.

#### Reports/Discussion/Action

Betsy Paynter provided an update noting the September EDC newsletter is in development for release at the end of the month. The Buy Local Banner was hung on the FFH fence for Back to School timing and planned for the Small Business Saturday weekend in November too. The Sandy Hook Signage and Wayfinding consultant has completed two workshops with a semi final report to be presented on Sept 9<sup>th</sup> and the final presentation on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Sandy Hook Firehouse from 6-8pm. The commission discussed the opportunities of the various economic development projects in front of the zoning & planning commission over the past and coming month. Grace Christian Church development including 180 unit development, a commercial property and church at 13 Hawleyville, Rand Whitney expansion on Edmond Road and Tractor Supply along Newtown's retail corridor, Rt. 25. These projects will be reviewed/discussed at the Sept 17<sup>th</sup> P&Z meeting. The EDC will host 4 business seminars this October, partnering with Newtown Savings Bank and Café Xpresso. 10/1 – marketing, 10/6 – ABCs of a business plan, 10/8 – Small business financing, 10/21 – restaurant support at the Booth Library from 8am-9:30am. A marketing article is being drafted for the New England Real Estate journal, Sept 17<sup>th</sup> issue promoting Newtown.

The commission discussed the 2016 5 year strategic plan which Wes Thompson has drafted. The commission is to review and provide feedback to Wes for the October meeting. The EDC hopes to have a final draft by January 2016.

There was discussion re: the Community Center. Paul Fadus will reach out to the commission to see if they need any help from the EDC.

There was discussion re: a cultural arts center on Fairfield Hill Campus. Bob, Al and Matt will review the financials to support this concept.