

Jean Leonard, Chairman
NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER
3 PRIMROSE STREET
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT 06470
TEL. (203) 270-4281
FAX (203) 270-4205
www.newtown.org



The Newtown Economic Development Commission held a regular meeting on
Tuesday, November 17, 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: Bob Rau, Elana Bertram, Wes Thompson, Paul Fadus, Al Roznicki, Mike Boyle, Matt Mahlik

Also Present: Betsy Paynter, Economic Development Coordinator

NOT PRESENT: Jean Leonard and Marty Gersten

Bob Rau called the meeting to order at 7:07pm, Elana arrived at 7:21pm

Public Participation: No public participation

Reports/Discussion/Action

Betsy Paynter provided an update noting the December EDC newsletter is in development for release in the middle of next month. As a result of Sandy Hook's signage and wayfinding report, Betsy is working with SHOP and the town historian to execute a "Museum in the Streets" program within Sandy Hook Village. Entrance signs, east and west bound at exit 10 directing the location of Sandy Hook Village and the Borough of Newtown and off exit 11, indicating the direction to Sandy Hook Village are on the agenda to complete in the next year.

Betsy is researching local restaurant interest in a Newtown/Sandy Hook "Restaurant Week". Newtown is becoming a restaurant destination; this might help to gain awareness of the new restaurants in town.

Wes Thompson offered to help with the Farmer's Market over the off season to create a successful market in Newtown.

In their capacity of community development, the EDC will host a seminar on housing trends on January 26th at the Booth Library at 7pm. The town and boards & commissions will be invited to attend.

Betsy and Matt are working with the library on a business resource seminar at 8am on January 27th in the meeting room at the library. This will help to educate our local businesses on the various resources available for free at the Booth Library. There's an opportunity to grow business resources with the EDC and library.

There was discussion re: a cultural arts center. Bob Rau is working with the Cultural Arts Commission on a plan and next steps. The town has applied for a grant to determine if Plymouth Hall on FFH campus is structurally sounds for a performing arts center concept.

Mike Boyle and Betsy are editing the 2016 EDC Strategic Plan for commission review.

Mike Boyle is working with SHOP to help grow awareness of their events.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Paynter