

**Economic Development Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, August 2, 2016  
4pm Clifford B. Green Memorial Center**

**Present:** Robert Simons, Andy Pinto, Mary Beth Leonard, Ron Ventura and Cary Garcia (arrived at 4:06pm)

**Absent with Notice:** Chris Landis

**Also Present:** Melissa Bradley; Recording Secretary, Richard Ives; First Selectman, and Public; Aaron Kerouack

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Simons called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Mary Beth Leonard made a motion to approve the minutes of June 6, 2016 as presented. Andy Pinto seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
3. **Public Commentary:** None
4. **Unfinished Business**
  - Brooklyn Business Association: There will be a car cruise on the Sunday of the Fall Festival put on by the BBA. It was questioned if this could be advertised part of the Fall Festival but the board agrees it cannot.
  - Business Recognition: BBA was approached and will not be continuing this. Mr. Simons states he feels this a great program and it should transition to the EDC. The Chamber of Commerce will usually take on such a task but because Brooklyn is a small Town, they are not interested. Mr. Simons and Mr. Pinto will meet with Lyn and ask for a list of businesses who have been recognized and continue from there.
  - Discussion Fall Festival and Art Show: Festival is moving along. There are 17 artists currently, and most are paid. Vendors are still needed. Mr. Pinto is looking for a mobile ice cream vendor. Scarecrow applications are ready and the festival is advertised in the Walktober brochure. Advertising will be done on the radio as well.
5. **New Business**
  - Current mission of EDC: Mr. Simons asks the board to review the mission statement and discussion will be held at the next meeting if any changes need to be made or if it needs to be updated.
  - Discussion on paid staff: Mr. Simons states it is hard to accomplish some tasks without a paid staff member for EDC. The funds were not in this current budget but would like to try for next year. Mr. Ives thinks a good place to start is to develop a document listing what types of businesses we would like or need in Town. Mr. Simons feels would like

inventory of what we currently have and then the board can brainstorm where the holes are. Mr. Simons would also like to see a more interactive webpage. The board decides to have a liaison to the Planning and Zoning commission to keep abreast what is going on in Town. Mr. Ventura volunteers to attend this month's meeting. The members will take turns monthly attending.

- **Consideration of Meeting Time:** Mr. Ives is unable to find a secretary for the board while the meetings are held at 4pm. If they were moved to evenings, it would be more likely. Ms. Garcia volunteers to take the minutes for the board if they would like to keep the meeting at 4pm. Board agrees to continue with 4pm and Ms. Garcia will take minutes. Mr. Ives states he will keep looking for a secretary, but the time will be difficult.

**6. Other Business:** Mr. Ives suggests to the board to talk directly to the Brooklyn Business Association. This would create some publicity that the EDC exists and maybe even work together.

**7. Adjourn:** Cary Garcia made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Beth Leonard seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

Melissa J. Bradley  
Recording Secretary