

The Town of Brooklyn Economic Development Commission

Chairperson, Lyn LaCharite

(860)774-6045

Meeting the First Tuesday of every month @ 7pm at the
Clifford B Green Memorial Center

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 7:00 PM

Minutes

1.) Roll Call – Lyn LaCharite called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Members in attendance: Marybeth Leonard, Carrie Garcia, Lyn LaCharite, Robert Simons, Andrew Pinto and Ronald Ventura, Alternate.

Also present: Jana Roberson, Land Use Officer and Rick Ives, First Selectman.

Absent with notification: Chris Landis.

2.) Approval of Minutes: Regular meeting November 5, 2013 – Marybeth Leonard made a motion to approve the minutes with the following correction: 2013/2014 Goals – Robert Simons suggested inviting the First Selectman to a meeting to speak to the EDC about what his vision for Brooklyn will be and how they can help. Motion carried unanimously.

3.) Public Commentary - None

4.) Correspondence - None

5.) Unfinished Business:

a.) Business Recognition – CorePlus had their ribbon cutting last month. At that time the EDC presented them with their business recognition plaque.

Lyn LaCharite has contacted Subway and Dollar Tree and is waiting to hear back from them in order to set up their plaque presentation.

b.) Business Association - No meeting is scheduled for December. First annual meeting will be held on January 7, 2014 at Hank's Restaurant. At this meeting the New Officers for the upcoming year will be chosen.

c.) P&Z Meeting report of Sign regulations - Ron Ventura reviewed the meeting that he attended regarding this issue. He stated that Jana Roberson, Land Use Director,

gave a very good power point presentation referencing the Route 6 Commercial zone in 2006 as compared to the present day.

The concerned business owners who attended the Regular November PZC meeting and were invited to this special meeting of the PZC did not attend. The PZC discussed sign regulations and also flag regulations. No action was taken at the meeting. Robert Simons commented that the Business Association members commented at their last meeting that they did not have enough notice about this meeting; however they sent their comments to Jana Roberson before the Special PZC Meeting. Ronald Ventura commented that the PZC scheduled the special meeting at the Regular Meeting and invited the business owners who were in attendance. Lyn LaCharite also commented that she notified the President of the Business Association once she had heard of the scheduled special meeting.

6.) New Business

a.) Canterbury BBA Event 12/5 – The Canterbury BBA has invited the EDC to attend their meeting on 12/5/13 at 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Rights Mills Farm. They will discuss different ideas they have for new businesses. One of the ideas that they are currently doing is presenting welcome packets to incoming residents and businesses. This is something the EDC would like to bring to Brooklyn and will discuss in 2014.

b.) Board and Commission Forum 12/7 – First Selectman, Rick Ives, has scheduled a forum with all the Brooklyn Boards and Commissions. The last one was two years ago. The idea is to have the various Boards and Commissions discuss their goals for Brooklyn.

Mr. Ives stated that he would like to see a master plan for the Route 6 Corridor. He would like to maximize what they have and capitalize on this area. He would like to see the housing in East Brooklyn revitalized. Further discussion was heard regarding this area and in particular The Place building.

Mr. Ives commented that He and Jana Roberson are currently working on a sidewalk from Wal-Mart to the Shell Station. There is a potential for a grant. This area has a lot of foot traffic which is dangerous.

Another proposal by Rick Ives is to change the current ordinance regarding the plowing of sidewalks. Currently the town takes care of all the sidewalks, even the ones in front of businesses. He would like to propose that every business owner maintain their own sidewalks.

c.) 2014 Grant Ideas – Discussions have been held between Lyn LaCharite, Jana Roberson and Rick Ives. Lyn LaCharite feels that the EDC should have a visitation program with businesses to find out what their needs are to have a better performance, i.e. façade, marketing, business plan etc.

Lyn LaCharite would like to find out the available information from CERC and would like to join. Mr. Ives feels there should be discussions regarding what type of businesses they would like to bring into this town. He would also like to work with prospective buyers to help them come into town and work out any issues they may have.

d.) Re-appointment of members – Robert Simons and Marybeth Leonard will be reappointed as members of the EDC. Andrew Pinto has been appointed to the Housing Authority.

7.) Other Business - None

8.) Adjournment - Robert Simons made a motion to adjourn at 4:40 pm. Motion second by Lyn LaCharite. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen M. Desrosier