

The Town of Brooklyn Economic Development Commission

Chairperson, Lyn LaCharite
(860)774-6045

*Meeting the First Tuesday of every month @ 4pm at the
Clifford B Green Memorial Center*

Special Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 4:00 PM
at the Clifford B Green Memorial Center

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Minutes

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

Present - Cheryl Sandholm, Lyn LaCharite, Robert Simons, Andrew Pinto and Ronald Ventura. Chris Landis absent with notification. Austin Tanner, First Selectman and Albert Sandholm

2.) Seating of Alternates - Ronald Ventura for Chris Landis

3.) Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting April 3, 2012. Cheryl Sandholm made a motion to approve the April 3, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by Robert Simons. Motion carried unanimously.

4.) Public Commentary - Austin Tanner reviewed a new business incentive being put on by Eastern CT Workforce which will subsidize new employee hiring for new businesses. Lyn LaCharite also explained what she knew of this business incentive.

Mr. Tanner also brought to the Commission's attention the proposed Quinebaug Regional Technology Park (229 Acres) in Putnam. Putnam received a grant to build a bridge to the Technology Park. Further discussion was heard regarding this issue. Mr. Tanner stated this is just in the discussion stages at this time. He presented the Commission with a package he has received from Putnam regarding this matter.

5.) Correspondence - None.

6.) Unfinished Business

a.) Brochures Update - Lyn LaCharite and Cheryl Sandholm reviewed the proof from Racine Printing. There were only minor corrections. Racine's would like to put in some more pictures. Lyn suggested the Golden Lamb, Hart's and a picture of the dedication of the new Brooklyn sign. The Commission will meet on Friday, May 4, 2012 at 11:00 am for a picture. Marybeth Racine has volunteered to put flowers around the sign, however this may not be done by the dedication ceremony.

b.) Business Association Meeting Progress - Nine businesses attended the meeting. They have asked Lyn to create a survey for businesses regarding the creation

of the association and what they would like to see come out of this association. Marybeth Leonard offered to go business to business with the survey to deliver them, to save on mailing costs. Bob Simons suggested that the businesses could volunteer at the many events that Brooklyn has which would be a good advertising tool. No future meeting is scheduled.

c.) Fun Day Progress - Lyn explained that everything is moving along smoothly, however she is concerned about the 5K road race. She reviewed the timeline with the Commission and the progress that has been taken place so far. Discussion was heard regarding the organization of the race and if there is enough time to schedule the event for this year.

Consensus to have Lyn LaCharite contact Rudy Pauls and asked him to reschedule the event to next year.

d.) Recap of EDC Luncheon- Tom Marano spoke with the area EDC Coordinators. He would like to schedule a seminar in the Fall at QVCC. Suggested topics would be - How to write a business plan and marketing. He was going to speak with his education department and possibly schedule something in September. Rob Simons also suggested social media marketing tools.

e.) Report of Cap Size Meeting- Cheryl Sandholm and Lyn LaCharite attended this meeting. The Sub-Committee has asked NECCOG to create a map which would depict the largest size building that could be constructed in the PC zone, which is possibly 120,000 sq ft on Dave Cabrera's property across from Hank's Restaurant. There has been discussions of an additional study on Allen Hill Road regarding the Commercial Zone in this area. Further discussion ensued regarding this issue.

f.) Report of Planning and Zoning Meeting- Ron Ventura attended this meeting. Discussions regarding sign regulations were heard, which may be of concern to the EDC, however this will be discussed at a future date. No further discussion regarding South Main Street was heard at the meeting. The P&Z Commission discussed the Ross Property and how it may affect the Village District. Discussion was also heard regarding The Learning Center and why they have not come before the P&Z with any applications to build etc.

g.) South Main Street Zoning - see above

7.) New Business

a.) New Meeting Schedule with Time Change - Reviewed and accepted

b.) Web site Changes - The Commission discussed various changes they would like to see to the website. It is not user friendly.

c.) Sign Dedication and Business Recognition - Sign dedication is scheduled for Friday, May 4, 2012. Business Recognition is currently proposed for Courtesy Ford and the Barber Shop at a future date. Lyn will set these up once Courtesy Ford is complete with renovations.

d.) Recent Real Estate Transactions - Advanced Auto recently was purchased by an out of state buyer for \$2.3 million. A home on Westview Drive was purchased for \$360,000. Originally this home sold for \$309,000.

9.) Adjournment - Motion by Cheryl Sandholm and a second by Ronald Ventura to adjourn at 4:50 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen M. Desrosier, Clerk