

# 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

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at 4:00 PM  
at the Clifford B Green Memorial Center

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

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Lena A. Muirville

TOWN CLERK, BROOKLYN, CT

## Minutes

1.) Roll Call - Chair, Lyn LaCharite, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Present: Chris Landis, Lyn LaCharite, Rob Simons and Ron Ventura (Alternate).

Also present: Marybeth Leonard.

2.) Seating of Alternates - Ron Ventura for Cheryl Sandholm.

3.) Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting June 5, 2012 - Chris Landis made a motion to approve the June 5, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Rob Simons seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4.) Public Commentary - None

5.) Correspondence - Letter of Resignation from Cheryl Sandholm effective June 7, 2012. She would like to wish the EDC good luck in their future improvement of the Town of Brooklyn. Lyn LaCharite would like to thank the Mrs. Sandholm for her 6 years of constant volunteer service. Mrs. LaCharite expressed that she was always available to help out whenever needed and will be missed.

Motion by Lyn LaCharite to accept Cheryl Sandholm's letter of resignation with regrets. Second by Chris Landis. Motion carried.

6.) Unfinished Business

a.) Brochures - The final payment has been made and they are being distributed to local businesses and Last Green Valley.

b.) Fun Day - The final meeting did not happen last month, however Mrs. LaCharite did have a meeting with the Selectmen which took place before the end of the fiscal year because she was holding onto some donations. These funds will be put towards next year's event.

c.) Business Association - Marybeth Leonard has offered her home and business, The Barn at Gray Mare Hill, for a meeting on August 16, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Emails have been sent out to roughly 25 Brooklyn businesses.

Andrew Pinto arrived at 4:15 pm

Marybeth Leonard gave a few ideas of what she would like to discuss at the meeting such as the Brooklyn Fall Festival and how a business can get involved by building scarecrows, donating money for the banners, money for prizes etc. She felt this would be a springboard to start the topic of what the focus point of the association would be. Further discussion was heard.

Austin Tanner arrived - 4:20 pm

#### 7.) New Business

a.) Review of Rules and Procedures and election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary - Lyn LaCharite discussed that there have not been any changes to the rules but asked the Commission if they have reviewed them in preparation for the meeting and would like to suggest any changes. She did recall the mention of term limits. Bob Simons commented that if the Chair has the energy to commit to the Commission regarding this position, this change will not be needed. He did share that it would be in the interest of the Chair to let the Commission know if they are getting "burnt out" so that the Vice-Chair would be able to step in.

Chris Landis commented that as Vice Chair, and due to his current situation, he may not be available at the 4:00 pm meetings. Bob Simons pointed out that the new meeting time is not convenient for him as well. He would like to look at the 7:00 pm meetings again when the schedule runs out. Further discussion was heard. This will be discussed at the end of the year meeting.

Chair - Bob Simons nominated Lyn LaCharite. Seconded by Chris Landis. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair - Lyn LaCharite nominated Chris Landis - withdrawn.

Chris Landis nominated Bob Simons. Second by Ron Ventura. Motion Carried.

Secretary - Ron Ventura nominated Andy Pinto. Bob Simons seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion was heard and it was suggested to Mr. Tanner that he have a Town Meeting regarding vacancies for the Commissions and Boards in Town to explain to the various open positions.

b.) P&Z meeting report - Lyn LaCharite reviewed a prior meeting of the PZC which discussed Sign Regulations. She had been approached by three businesses very concerned about signs in windows, sandwich board signs, height of signs and temporary signs. Mrs. LaCharite attended the meeting and presented these concerns to the PZC. They did not make a decision at that meeting. She believes the sign regulations were approved at their last meeting on August 1, however the meeting

minutes were not available.

c.) NECCOG Seminar - Lyn LaCharite and Austin Tanner attended a seminar at NECCOG regarding a regional economic development plan. CERC was in attendance at this meeting. Mrs. LaCharite felt the consensus of no need to regionalize. Rob Simons reviewed the seminar that he attended last year with the Commission. Further discussion ensued.

d.) Business Recognition - There are no businesses on the list currently. Chris Landis noted a new business for recognition - Living the Dream. Marybeth Leonard suggested A Pet Spa.

e.) Garden Club Donation - Lyn LaCharite thanked Marybeth Leonard and the members of the Garden Club for the flowers in front of the sign on Route 6.

Lyn LaCharite will set up some dates and times for Business Recognition and also a photo with the Garden Club at the dedication of the sign on Route 6.

8.) Other Business - Ron Ventura and Lyn LaCharite have been having discussions regarding the sidewalk on Route 6 at the Shell Station. They would like to see something done to have it extended to Wal-Mart once it is built. There is a lot of foot traffic along Route 6 from the Village District to the PC District, which can be hazardous. Ron Ventura explained that there is a grant called the Main Street Investment Fund Grant which is handled by the State Economic Development Commission which would apply to this type of municipal project. Mr. Ventura reviewed this with the Commission. He feels this will be a benefit for the Town. Lyn LaCharite is getting information on this grant. Austin Tanner commented that he would have discussions with Wal-Mart to see if they will consider contributing sidewalks to this area.

9.) Adjournment - Chris Landis made a motion to adjourn at 5:04. Second by Bob Simons. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen M. Desrosier