The Town of Brooklyn  
Economic Development Commission  
Chairperson, Robert Simons  
(860)774-6544  
Meeting the First Tuesday of every month @ 4pm at the  
Clifford B Green Memorial Center  

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, August 6, 2019

Members present: Jeff Gagnon, Cary Garcia, Chris Landis (by phone, in person 4:20), Robert Simons

Also present: Jana Roberson, AJ Kerouac

1) Call to order – Mr. Simons called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2) Approval of minutes – Mrs. Garcia made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 16th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gagnon. Motion passed unanimously.

3) Public Commentary
   a) Mr. Kerouac expressed his desire to direct Brooklyn towards applying for the All American Town award, however pointed out that there would need to be a very committed group of individuals involved. Mr. Simons stated that he felt it was a good idea, but thought that Mr. Kerouac should put his ideas into a formal statement and bring it up for discussion after the election season has passed. Mr. Simons also felt that a staff member should be involved for directing the application.
   b) Discussion followed with Mr. Kerouac regarding groups in town that might be interested in participating in such projects (i.e. Putnam Elms).
   c) Discussion continued regarding a lack of activities for seniors and the draw to go to Putnam for activities.
   d) Ms. Roberson distributed the proposed revisions to the Zoning regulations and stated that the public hearing opened in mid-July and will remain open until at least August 20th, and possibly longer for more feedback if necessary. She cited a positive article in the Courant Community regarding the new regulations stating that the goal of the revisions is to make them easy to use and understand.
   e) Ms. Roberson discussed a new certification for CT municipalities in economic development, stating that going through the process is a good way to review practices in Brooklyn on broad scale and would be a good learning process. She also touched on the use of social media as a platform for new businesses as well
as recognition of volunteers at town events.
(Ms. Roberson left at 4:30 p.m.)

4) Unfinished Business
   a) Future of EDC - The group agreed to table the discussion until after the election.
   b) Mr. Simons stated that Mr. Voccio e-mailed him requesting to move the meeting
to a later time as he was unable to return to the area for the 4:00 time. The
   group discussed the fact that the time has been adjusted before with a similar
low turnout unless a special meeting was called and specific individuals were
   invited. The Commission agreed to stay with the 4:00 time slot but is open to
   meeting later if there is ever a specific agenda item to be discussed.
   c) Social media presence - Mrs. Garcia is willing to set up a Facebook page but
   requested feedback from the group on how it would be used. The group agreed
that for now she should get it set up and it will be a work in progress, with the
potential ranging from simply announcing meeting times to providing a link to a
survey, or supporting other events in town. Mrs. Garcia will have it set up by the
   October meeting.

5) New Business
   a) Mr. Simons lead a discussion on whether current town personnel could guide the
   EDC with some direction.

6) Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made at 4:58 p.m. by Mr. Landis, second by Mr.
   Gagnon. Motion passed unanimously.

7) The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 1st at 4 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cary Garcia, Secretary