

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, November 7, 2017

Members present: Marybeth Leonard, Cary Garcia, Robert Simons **Absent with notice:** Chris Landis

Staff Present: Jana Roberson, Director of Community Development

Members of the Public of Note: AJ Kerouac – P&Z

- 1) Call to order - Robert Simons, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of September minutes – A motion was made by Mrs. Garcia and seconded by Mrs. Leonard. All in favor.
- 3) Public Commentary – Mr. Kerouac stated that he feels the EDC Coordinator position was cut from the Town budget without merit and the position would pay for itself within the first year, noting that he feels EDC should pursue the position further. Mr. Simons felt that it would be best to wait for today's election results before addressing the position any further. This led to further discussion of EDC's role beyond business recognition. Ms. Roberson was sympathetic to the need for paid staff in order to help promote economic growth. There was further discussion in regards to possibly surveying current business owners to obtain opinions and ideas for moving forward with business growth while the challenge of an unfriendly image continues to be the trend. Mr. Simons suggested the possibility of hiring a consultant to provide a vision and a strategy for economic development in Brooklyn. Mr. Kerouac suggested a cost sharing option with other towns to ease the financial burden of the consultant. A proposal will be constructed for the December meeting.
- 4) Unfinished Business
 - a) Brooklyn Business Association (BBA) – The next meeting will be held 11/21 at 5:30 at the Barn at Gray Mare Hill.
 - b) Business Recognition – Mrs. Leonard reports that she is still in need of a budget to move forward with any more plaque presentations.
- 5) A motion to adjourn was made at 5:00 p.m. by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Simons. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cary Garcia, Secretary