

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, April 4, 2017

Members present: Marybeth Leonard, Cary Garcia, Chris Landis, Robert Simons

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

- 1) Call to order - Robert Simons, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.
- 2) Approval of January and February minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Landis and seconded by Mrs. Leonard. All in favor.
- 3) Lack of Quorum Issue – 3 members are needed for a quorum. With the resignation of Mr. Ventura it is essential that all current members attend meetings and we must seek out new members. Mr. Simons reported that he has asked Mr. Ives to find members. Mrs. Garcia suggested reaching out to BBA members.
- 4) Public Commentary:
 - Mr. Kerouac continued the discussion by informing the group of some research he has done that he feels should allow his participation as an EDC member. He would like to be an EDC member but has been told he cannot due to his participation on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Other towns in the area have numerous members with overlapping participation on various commissions. He also researched and found that there is no law preventing him from participating on more than one commission. Additionally, Mr. Kerouac found that in the event of a lack of quorum the Selectman is expected to fill in. Mr. Simons will contact Mr. Ives to discuss Mr. Kerouac becoming an alternate and in the event of a conflict, he will recuse himself.
- 5) Unfinished Business
 - a) Brooklyn Business Association (BBA)
 - A Fun After 5 was held in March, hosted by Titan Energy.
 - A Lunchbox Learning was held at Hank's last Thursday. Jim Zahansky of Weiss & Hale presented on retirement options for small businesses.
 - Next meeting April 18th.
 - b) Business Recognition – Mrs. Leonard presented a breakdown of costs for each plaque presentation. Each plaque is \$15 each and Turnpike Buyer ads are \$148. Given the high cost Mr. Simons would like to set a budget of \$2500, for a total of 15 presentations presented on five occasions per year. Mrs. Garcia made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Landis. Discussion followed regarding the challenges being a committee of only volunteers. All in favor.

- c) EDC Coordinator position – The group reviewed the list of goals for the Coordinator position which Mr. Simons will present to Mr. Ives. Discussion followed about Jana Roberson’s role as Director of Community Development after she completes her current project of rewriting regulations.
- d) 2017 – 2018 Budget – With the adjustment to the cost for business recognitions from \$500 to \$2500, the group approved the budget of \$43,500, which includes the salary for a part-time EDC Coordinator. Mrs. Leonard motioned to approve, seconded by Mrs. Garcia. All in Favor.

6) New Business

- Mrs. Garcia will get paid for recording the minutes.

7) A motion to adjourn was made at 5:11 p.m. by Mr. Landis, seconded by Mrs. Leonard. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cary Garcia, Secretary