

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 1, 2017

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

Staff Present: Richard Ives, First Selectman

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 June minutes – A motion was made by Mr. Landis and seconded by Mrs. Leonard. All in favor.
- 3) Public Commentary – None
- 4) Discussion with Mr. Ives:
 - a) Mr. Ives reports that the lower level of Lyn LaCharite’s building (next to Hank’s) has been rented to Spherion and an aesthetician.
 - b) Pet Valu and Bodyworks Massage have both opened behind CVS.
 - c) As of this morning, the new Dunkin Donuts complex still has no tenants lined up. It is not clear what will happen to the old Dunkin Donuts.
 - d) The available spaces in the Job Lot plaza remain unoccupied and rents remain high.
 - e) The old D&Z store which is now owned by a big company still wants a station to pump gas and shows no signs of forward progress. Mr. Ives reports that the property should be weed-whacked tomorrow along with the state land that abuts the property.
 - f) Mr. Ives was hoping to have 2 new EDC members but they fell through. He may have another lined up but reports that both EDC and Wetlands are desperate for members. Mr. Landis has already reported he cannot attend the September meeting causing a lack of quorum. Bob Simons suggested Mr. Ives advertise a work session open to Brooklyn residents to discuss volunteer positions.
- 5) Unfinished Business
 - a) Brooklyn Business Association (BBA)
 - Movie night in the park – The BBA is hosted “The Secret Life of Pets” on Friday, July 28th at Prince Hill. Another movie is scheduled for Saturday, September 9th.
 - Car Cruise – Scheduled for Sunday, 9/24. Lyn LaCharite continues to make progress on coordinating all parties involved.

b) Business Recognition –

- There was a discussion regarding the budget for business recognition. Mrs. Leonard reported that 3 upcoming presentations will max out the budget. Some possibilities include trying to combine each business into one ad.
- 3 presentations will take place over the next 2 weeks:
 - Pet Valu – 8/14 @ 10:00
 - Bodyworks Massage – 8/14 @ 10:20
 - Spherion – 8/15 @ 9:30
- Mrs. Garcia reported that at the last BBA meeting Lyn LaCharite announced that she was willing to do the plaque presentations since she has more access to new business owners simply because of the nature of her business. She could not be at today's meeting but Carla Demers was supposed to attend in her place. A motion was made by Mrs. Leonard to table the discussion until the next meeting, seconded by Mrs. Garcia. All in favor.
- Mrs. Leonard distributed a list of all businesses that have received plaques, noting that many have closed or moved.

c) Brooklyn Fall Festival – Mrs. Leonard reports that plans are progressing nicely. The sign from last year still needs to be found.

6) New Business

- The Brooklyn sign at Day St. has been defaced. Mr. Ives stated that the Town will pay to have it fixed.

7) A motion to adjourn was made at 4:53 p.m. by Mrs. Leonard, seconded by Mrs. Garcia. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Cary Garcia, Secretary