

Town of East Hampton
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

6:30 P.M.

East Hampton Town Hall

Present: Ted Turner, Tim Csere, Robin Letourneau, Walt Jedziniak, and Erin Hall.

Absent: Kate Adams and Matthew Joseff.

Call to Order: Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

- a) *A motion was made by Mr. Csere and seconded by Ms. Letourneau to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 19, 2018 with no amendments suggested. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Public Comment: Shauna Lee Lange spoke to the committee members about establishing an open-air market during the warmer months and an indoor market for the colder months. She stated that she hopes to have the support and backing from the EDC committee. She also asked to appear on the agenda for the next meeting. She wants the market to become a community meeting place; somewhere people can go to hangout and look through locally grown/ handmade products.

Business of the Month Award & Photo: The August Business of the Month is Swept-Away. The owner and operator, Brent Salinsky, attended the meeting to receive the award and have his photo taken with the committee members.

Old Business:

- a) **Business Package Promotion & Tourism:** The members discussed different ways of increasing tourism within and for the town. They discussed a package deal with the local businesses around the town. Ideas were brought up about bringing businesses that show interest into a meeting to discuss and possibly finalize some deal packages. The members need to figure out dates, venues, and participating businesses. An idea to hold a monthly local business networking ‘meet and greet’ was suggested. The members need figure out the same details as the package deal for local tourism. It was decided to table both topics/ ideas for the next meeting.
- b) **New Business Update/ New Business with Planning Zoning Approval/ Review of P&Z minutes:** There was a permit application for a commercial stable. Planning and Zoning approved the permit with some conditions. The committee members reviewed the minutes from the Planning and Zoning meeting.

- c) **Discussion of New Business Banner Location:** The banner is with Yellow Marigold and hung up on their store front. The next business the banner will go to is Frill.
- d) **Belltown Spotlight on Business:** The banner was with Carl Guild. The banner won't go to Swept-Away since there is no store front to hang the banner. The banner will go to The Studio next to be hung up.
A motion was made by Ms. Hall and seconded by Mr. Csere to approve The Studio as Business of the Month for September. Voted 5-0 in favor.
- e) **Commission Members' Business Outreach Reports:** *A motion was made by Mr. Csere and seconded by Ms. Hall to table this topic for the next meeting.*
- f) **New Business Checklist:** The members discussed the checklist used in the selection for Business of the Month. The checklist has been added to the town website and is available to everyone.
- g) **Discussion of Meeting of East Hampton Business:** None
- h) **Encouraging Local Business to Attend EDC Meetings:** None
- i) **Promotion of 'Shop Local':** There was a discussion of how to promote 'shop local'. A suggestion was made to have a voucher booklet made; this idea goes along the same lines as the passports from the wineries. There should be specific stamps or stickers for each local business that also incorporates the town bell as well. The name of this passport/ event should be called 'Belltown Local Business Challenge'. At the end of the year everyone participating in the challenge would be entered in a raffle and win a prize donated by the local businesses involved.
- j) **Town Brochures:** Each of the members took a section of the old town brochure to revise and edit for the next meeting. Ms. Hall is revising accommodations, outdoor activities/ hiking, Ms. Letourneau is revising restaurants and services, Mr. Jedziniak is taking the photos and revising retail shops, Mr. Turner is revising antiques and churches, and Mr. Csere is revising points of interest.
- k) **Town Beautification:** The members discussed ways of incorporating the community into the beautification project. Eagle Scouts and high school students were suggested. An idea to sponsor an event around a holiday, like 'Earth Day' to support the beautification project.
- l) **EDC Business Scavenger Hunt:** This was suggested to be crossed off the agenda.

New Business

- a) **EDC & Arts & Culture Commission Collaborative Event for 2019:** This topic has been tabled for the next meeting.

Town Manager's Report: Mr. Maniscalco updated the members on the drinking water project. There have been some complications, but the project is still in progress. There has been a change where the Board of Director's and the Fire Marshal's office have been approved to oversee the day to day decision making and functions of the Town Manager's office. The bid package for the new Town Hall and Police Department building project was sent out. September 8th is the expected ground breaking for the construction of the new building. The TIF (Tax Increment Financing) district was passed by Planning and Zoning and will be presented to the Chamber of Commerce in September. There is still no budget for the town, so each department is operating on a moth to month budget based on last year's budget. The Town Council passed the budget for September 10th to go to referendum on September 19th.

Public Comment: Roland Rux the liaison to Planning and Zoning to the EDC asked the Town Manager if he could get a copy of the drinking water project report to present to P&Z. Mr. Maniscalco suggested to attend the next Planning and Zoning meeting to present the updates for the project in person.

Shauna Lee Lange had some questions for the EDC members; the members gave her answers to each of her questions.

Adjournment: *At 8:05 p.m. Mr. Csere moved to adjourn. Ms. Letourneau seconded. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk