

**Town of East Hampton
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

6:30 P.M.

East Hampton Town Hall

MINUTES

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

Absent: None

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

Approval of Minutes:

- a) *A motion was made by Ms. Hall, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to approve the September 17, 2019 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 4-1 in favor with Mr. Csere abstaining.*

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- a) **East Haddam Business Expo- October 29th:** Mr. Jedziniak will be attending the event as representative for the commission.
- b) **Business Package Promotion & Tourism:** There were two submissions for the pamphlet from the advertisement in the Rivereast and 6 more from the post on the Facebook commission page. The other businesses will be listed in the pamphlet alongside the ones that replied to the advertisements. There was discussion on what needs to be finished before sending the pamphlet to Essex Printing. The members have already divided the different areas and gathered the information. A special workshop meeting was suggested to let the members meet to collate and organize everything needed before being sent to Essex Printing. *A motion was made by Ms. Letourneau, seconded by Ms. Hall, to hold the agenda for next month to have the meeting focus on the pamphlet. Voted 5-0 in favor.*
- c) **New Business Update/ New Business with Planning & Zoning Approval/ Review of P&Z Minutes:** The members reviewed this topic.
- d) **New Business Banner Locations:** The banner is with Ratatouille. The members discussed getting a two-sided sandwich board sign for new business. The members will investigate the price before deciding further. There was discussion about how the commission will help and support the village center. It was suggested to promote and support all businesses, not just the village center. The Jingle Bell is being held on the second Saturday in December. The members thought to put an ad announcing the event in the newspaper and the annual magazine. There was also discussion about starting a conversation with business owners to figure out a joint event. The members discussed

putting together a Holiday Shopping Guide to promote shopping within the town. This guide would list all the businesses eligible in the town. This will help the businesses within the town; to get their names out there and to gain more customers. This will also promote the shop local for small businesses. The finished guide will be submitted to the Events magazine in lieu of a business of the month article.

- e) **Belltown Spotlight on Business:** There were no forms submitted nominating the next business. The form is posted online and suggested to put it in the Rivereast and Events magazine to gain more nominations for businesses. Mr. Csere thinks Bevin Bell and Dr. Palmer would be good businesses to nominate for spotlight on business. Ms. Letourneau thinks Berkshire Hathaway would also be another good business for spotlight on business.
- f) **Town Beautification:** Boy scout troop 8 is heading a project to beautify a section of the town. There have been no updates for the project.

New Business: None

Town Manager's Report: The project on Oakum Dock Road is progressing slowly. There will be additional cleaning at 13 Watrous, once the Town Council approves. There are funds for environmental investing at 1 Watrous Street. A meeting needs to be scheduled with the water company and the town is reviewing proposals of bids for buying the old Town Hall building. The TIF District in the Village Center has decreased since its inception. In 2016 it lost \$75,000. It's still in the negative as of this year.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Csere, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk