

Town of East Hampton
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
6:30 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Ted Turner, Tim Csere, Robin Letourneau, Walt Jedziniak, Christopher Ott, and Matthew Reich.

Absent: None

Call to Order: Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 6:36 P.M.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Mr. Jedziniak, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to approve of the June 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes with no changes. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Public Comments: None

Discussion with Building Official and Fire Marshal on Opening a New Business in East

Hampton: Jeremy DeCarli, Rich Klotzbier, and Glenn LeConche were present to discuss opening a new business in East Hampton and answering any questions the commission members may have. The Fire Marshal investigates all fires that occur in town, enforce fire safety laws, and inspects commercial and residential buildings whether it is a daycare, grocery store, or a new residential home. Some buildings have different requirements to gain a certificate of occupancy. An example would be an assembly building. Sports on 66, churches, and restaurants are all assembly buildings. But each building has different requirements to gain a certificate. With Covid, restaurants have added outdoor eating causing another code requirement for the establishment. Dexter's Tunes, Tales, and Ales in the village center has 3 code requirements. One code for liquor, one code for bookstore, and one code for outdoor eating. There is a sheet to help direct an incoming developer or new to town business owner, whether its residential or commercial, to which department they need or may be beneficial to seek out first. It was suggested to involve a few commission members in joining the officials when inspecting properties and/or buildings and meeting with potential developers/business owners/ new residents. It would be beneficial insight for the commission members. There is information and steps of what to do on the building department and land use website. If there needs to be a zone change, from residential to commercial, it would go through the planning and zoning department. A discuss would be held to determine if that would be possible and an application would have to be sent to the planning and zoning department. There are many benefits and perks to get people to live in East Hampton. The school system is great, there is a grocery store, there are a couple pharmacies in town, etc. A person could get all their errands finished within the town.

Old Business:

- a) **Business Package Promotion & Tourism:** A final draft of the pamphlet was sent to the members by email. It was decided to add East Hampton Chiropractic and to take out the two Marlborough businesses. The phone number for both the Town Manager and Chairman Turner should be added to the first page. The hospital and poison control should stay in the pamphlet. It was discussed to take out She Shed, Wild Roots, and any other businesses that

have closed in town. Once the changes have been made and all the businesses listed in the pamphlet have been verified, the final draft will be sent to the printers. There will be 250 copies made this first time and will scatter them around various businesses in town.

b) New Business Update/New Businesses with Planning & Zoning

Approval/Review of P&Z Minutes: The members reviewed the P&Z minutes.

c) New Business Banner Locations: The banner is at Sweet Jeans. The members briefly discussed getting a sandwich sign to advertise new businesses in town. *A motion was made by Mr. Csere, seconded by Ms. Letourneau, to spend \$250 for a New Business sandwich sign. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

d) Belltown Spotlight on Business: The members need to get a picture at Belltown Motors for the Business of the Month article for the newspaper. The members discussed bringing the sign for Fat Orange Cat, but the owner doesn't feel right taking the sign since they're closed at the moment because of Covid. It was decided to move the sign to Liberty Outdoor Services. *A motion was made by Mr. Ott, seconded by Mr. Csere, to nominate Liberty Outdoor Services as Business of the Month for August. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

e) Town Beautification: This topic has been tabled for the next meeting. The members will think of projects that could happen around the town.

New Business: Mr. Reich presented an idea to the members to help local restaurants and to encourage the community to eat locally. East Hampton Eats would be a campaign for East Hampton to support local restaurants and food establishments in town. Have the local restaurants cooperate with the campaign and have a set dollar amount for the residents to spend. A hole punch or staff signature would be used to show the person participated in the campaign. This would be open to residents of East Hampton and anyone else that wants to join. There would be one gift card per person as a prize. There will be a press release on the town website and an ad in the Rivereast. The estimated cost of the campaign would be \$425; there would be \$300 for the gift card prizes and \$125 for any emergency gift cards if needed. The person would need to complete half of the list of participating restaurants to qualify for the prizes. There are a few hang ups that need investigating before launching the campaign.

Town Manager's Report: The aeration system is running in half of the lake and there have been no issues with algae in the lake. The town might be awarded a \$250,000 grant for drinking water project.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Jedziniak, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45PM. Voted 6-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk