

**Town of East Hampton
Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 18, 2017
Town Hall Meeting Room**

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Tim Csere, Kate Adams, Ted Turner, Erin Hall (6:45)

Absent: Jack Solomon, Jim Monahan

Call to order: Vice Chairperson Csere called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

- a) *A motion was made by Mr. Turner and seconded by Ms. Hall to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 21, 2017. Voted 4-0.*

Public Comments: None

Old Business

New Business Update

Mr. Turner visited the owner of the old theater building on N. Main, which is now being renovated. The owner stated that the town is being very cooperative in working with him and he is especially happy with the staff in the Building Dept. There are two possible businesses going in the building, one a coffee shop, possibly Panera. Another out building may have a hot dog or ice cream stand.

Mr. Turner also mentioned Fat Orange Cat Brewery, and stated that because of their license they are not able to sell kegs, or more quantities of beer than a growler. Their parking situation was discussed.

The new Shiny Do-Right food truck in the Cheers parking lot was mentioned; Ms. Adams stated she will stop there.

Marlborough and their new businesses were discussed, including restaurants from the Main & Hopewell and Spicy Green Bean groups in Glastonbury. Also, a Big Y is being planned to begin construction next spring.

Discussion was held on the number of people that are at Sports on 66 on the weekend, probably from out of town, and how E. Hampton restaurants could be marketed toward those visitors. A flier or pamphlet with coupons was discussed. Mr. Csere stated that he would be in touch with the owner.

Belltown Spotlight on Business

A photo with KOCO staff and kids is scheduled for April 19. This will be put into the EH Events magazine. This led to a discussion of other items that could be included, such as the upcoming EDC meeting dates/times and a blurb and

hopefully a photo of the Bevin House B&B as they have confirmed the business networking event on Aug. 23 from 7 – 8 P.M.

New Business

CT State Tourism Site

Tabled until the next meeting.

Village Center Clock

Staff reported that at the last 250th Anniversary Committee meeting the EDC was identified as the group that should be discussing the clock proposed by Councilor Piteo, who was unavailable to attend this meeting. The EDC has requested a financial report regarding the clock.

Town Manager's Report: None. The Committee requests written communication when the Town Manager is unavailable to attend meetings.

Public Comments

Shelley Marriero asked if the EDC knew if she can set up on a street corner or a building in the Village Center to sell her baskets. The Committee advised that would be up to individual property owners. They also suggested places for her to sell such as a booth at Old Home Days, the Farmer's Market, or the Engine Show at Haddam Neck Fair Grounds.

Ms. Hall suggested that the Committee meet with or attend meetings of neighboring EDCs in towns such as Marlborough and Portland, where they seem to have success in bringing in new businesses.

Ms. Hall also suggested a competition for high school or college students to design an EDC web page. Vice Chair Csere suggested a monetary award for this. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment: *Ms. Hall moved, and Mr. Turner seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 P.M. Voted 4-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti
Recording Clerk