



Economic Development Commission

Town of Bethel, Connecticut

*Bethel Municipal Center * 1 School Street * Bethel, Connecticut 06801*

(203) 794-8540 Facsimile (203) 778-7520

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

4:00 p.m.

CJH Municipal Center - Meeting Room "A"

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: Michael Boyle, Chairman, Jay Streaman, Bonnie Brown, Kevin McMahon and Sharon Straiton. Also in attendance was Janice Chrzescijanek, Economic Development Director and Matthew S. Knickerbocker, First Selectman.

Call to order: Michael Boyle called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Approval of minutes: Bonnie Brown made a motion, which was seconded by Sharon Straiton, to approve the minutes of May 20, 2015 with the correction that Jay Streaman was not in attendance. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Having been connected to the Economic Development Commission from its inception and part of the development of the Clarke Business Park (formerly known as the Francis J. Clarke Industrial Park), Wendy Smith is "retiring" from the activities of the Economic Development Commission. Members presented Wendy Smith with a clock recognizing her many years of service to the Economic Development Commission.

Economic Directors report: Janice Chrzescijanek reported on several items, including the following:

Presentations will be made to both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance regarding the many positives in town with new development projects, additional tax revenues, community projects and more. She noted that she continues to provide monthly reports to both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

TOD: Interviews were held with several different companies, and the selection has been narrowed down to one company, DPZ Partners. The selection committee was impressed with their expertise and experience in Transit Oriented District development. More will be reported on at the next meeting.

The Community Website is progressing with an August "go-live" appearance.

Discussed was the concern that several properties in the park are already on the market and 3 more are anticipated to go on soon as well as stalled expansion projects due to the potential of the crematorium being located in the park.

Sharon Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Jay Streaman, to send a letter to the Planning & Zoning Commission, sharing the Economic Development Commission concerns that moving the location of the proposed crematorium would be detrimental to the existing lot owners and would impede the Economic Development Commission's ability to sell any future lots. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Tax incentive review: Members discussed various options for adopting a tax incentive review and agreed to discuss it in more detail at the next meeting.

Adjourn: As there was no further business on today's agenda, Bonnie Brown made a motion, which was seconded by Kevin McMahon to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Smith, Recording Secretary