

# ECONOMIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

C.J. Hurgin Municipal Center  
1 School Street Bethel, CT 06801  
(203) 794-8501 Fax (203) 778-7520

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 2, 2012  
7:00 p.m.  
CJH Municipal Center -Meeting Room "A"

RECEIVED

2012 MAY -3 A 9:30

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**Present:** Chairman, Mike Boyle, William Shannon, Robert Stosser, Roy Steiner, Sandi Forman, Bonnie Brown and Paul Rinaldi

**Absent:** Anthony Rubino Mike Struna

Chairman Boyle called the special meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Chairman Boyle welcomed Bill Shannon to the committee, stating that he will be a very positive addition.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bonnie Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting; the motion was seconded by Paul Rinaldi. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

**Sign Update:** Paul Rinaldi reported that Speedy Signs of Brookfield has taken over the job after Signs Plus recently went out of business. The balance of the sign project is expected to be installed by the week of May 14<sup>th</sup> hopefully in time for the Saint Mary's Carnival, and other town events. Paul noted that the sign project has been completed under budget.

**Brochure Update:** Sandi informed the committee that the person who was assisting in completing the brochure is unable to assist further. Therefore, Sandi decided to invest in a MAC and software on her own and has taken on the responsibility of completing the brochure. The committee commended Sandi on her determination.

**Business List Update:** Bob Stosser reported on meeting with First Selectman Knickerbocker. Matt has taken on the responsibility of compiling a business list for the committee. Chairman Boyle suggested a possible mailing to business owners asking for contact information in the form of a questionnaire. Discussion ensued regarding ways to approach business owners so that a greater response would be had.

**Meet and Greet Update:** Bonnie stated that she is waiting to hear from Bobbi Joe regarding the possible meet and greet for Berkshire Industrial Park on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Economic Development Position:** Roy as member of the subcommittee in relation to the Economic Development Commission and Economic Outreach remarked on having met with other members to brainstorm. He positively reported that the position is already outlined in the Town of Bethel's adopted and accepted Plan of Development. It was noted that this position should not be a political position, and that a list of candidates should be compiled. Funding of the position was discussed.

**EDC Update:** Chairman Boyle updated the committee on the sign at Clarke Business Park. The base has been built, the trench has been dug for power, the plan is to have it up by May 15<sup>th</sup>, and it should be beautiful with landscaping and lighting at night. A rededication ceremony is in the planning stages to include a planting of a tree and placement of a plaque in honor of Chad McCollam. This will be happening sometime in June. All members will be invited.

Discussion regarding expansion of lots within the park took place.

Chairman Boyle reported that the Downtown Property Owners meeting was very well attended and is a huge success.

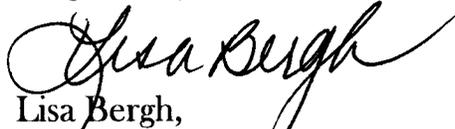
**Old Business:** Sandi asked about the website, Chairman Boyle stated that after the budget has been passed the Town will be moving forward on it.

**New Business:** Sandi wanted to share a bit of information regarding what Stamford Downtown is now offering to entice development. She stated that Retail establishments may take advantage of a guaranteed low interest loan in the amount of \$50,000.

Bill Shannon made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Bob Stosser. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lisa Bergh,  
Recording Secretary