

Town of Barkhamsted
Economic Development Commission
Barkhamsted Town Hall
June 1, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

Attendees: Bob Pulford, Tim Deschenes-Desmond, Shannon Chatfield, Linda Ganem and Don Stein. Meaghan Cook, First Selectman, and Rich Madara, who may be interested in joining the EDC, were also in attendance.

Motion: On a motion by Bob Pulford, seconded by Tim Deschenes-Desmond, the minutes of the meeting of April 6, 2026, were approved unanimously.

New Members: Rich Madara was at the meeting as an observer and will let Meaghan know if he is interested in being appointed to the Commission as an alternate. If he is, she can put the appointment on the next Board of Selectmen meeting agenda.

Farmers Market: Shannon Chatfield reported that the first two weeks of the market have been very successful. The cones prevent cars going to the transfer station from cutting through the market, there is adequate parking and the vendors have done well. They have cooperated with the ground rules and have provided insurance. There have been two bakers (Winsted, Granby), a soap vendor, Sweet Wind Farm, Northwest Corner Farm from Winsted and there is a possibility that either Greszyk or Barden Farm will join. There may be interest in the Scouts from New Hartford having a stand and also there is the possibility of having a kids' market. Norbrook has one once a month on a weekday and Shannon was wondering about having a winter market inside the garage. On a motion by Bob Pulford, seconded by Tim Deschaines-Desmond, the ideas for expansion presented by Shannon were approved.

Connecticut Main Street Workshop: Meaghan has scheduled a workshop for July 27 at 2:00PM at the Senior and Community Center. The merchants in Riverton and the residents have been invited to attend this workshop, which is titled Building Interest in Main Street. It is open to any resident or business in Town who is interested in the topic.

Business Meet-and-Greet/List of Businesses: Based on the lack of progress on editing the spreadsheet of businesses, it was suggested that a short question about interest in the Town's website directory could be included in the Personal Property assessment form that goes to all businesses. Meaghan was going to check with Carmen Smith, the Assessor, to see if that was feasible. It was also decided that we would discuss the Business Meet-and-Greet at the next meeting since Mark Mahoney had some ideas about a format that needs to be discussed. It was also suggested that we consider starting a Barkhamsted Business Chatter on Facebook, similar to Barkhamsted Town Chatter.

Barkhamsted Housing Trust: The BHT has received bids for the construction of the units and will be reviewing the bid of the low bidder in anticipation of completing the request to the CT Department

of Housing for funding. The site work is continuing and will be completed sometime this summer and the construction will follow, but the date is TBD depending on the CT DOH.

Riverton Fairgrounds events: The Car Show that was held on May 16 was very successful with close to 200 cars exhibiting and a very steady stream of folks coming to view the cars. The Recreation Commission will be holding a drive-in movie night on July 11 (rain date is July 25). The movie to be shown is "Project Hail Mary". The elementary schools' River Day will be September 25, and the Fair will be October 9, 10, 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein, Chair

The next meeting of the EDC will be July 6