

Town of Barkhamsted
Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Attending members: Mark Mahoney, Kathy Williams, Bob Pulford, Rob Fulton, Ginny Apple, Brian Johnson, Kevin Noblet, Tim Sullivan (by phone) Also present was Don Stein, First Selectman.

No members of the public attended the meeting

Review of minutes: On a motion by Kevin Noblet, seconded by Mark Mahoney and passed unanimously, the minutes of the December 19, 2019 meeting were approved.

Discussion:

- **Tourist Map** – There was no update available on this project. Don Stein mentioned that the town will likely be changing webhosting providers and that the new website and the Discover Litchfield Hills website would be a good venues for an interactive version of this map.
- **Welcome Kits** –Kathy Williams reported that she would be catching up on distribution of the welcome bags and that she would need a new, updated list of recent home closings.
- **Other Initiatives** – Don Stein informed the members that discussions regarding the sewer and water connections with Winsted on the west end of Route 44 were unchanged in the last month, as the Regional 7 Board of Education had voted against bringing the sewer line from the Mallory Brook Plaza. He is hopeful that the continued discussions will bring about a solution to this situation. The owner of the Plaza is looking at alternative routes, but the final routing is still TBD.

He reported that the new owners of the Old Riverton Inn are getting ready to open their Royal Coachman Tavern by the end of March and will also be serving food in the tavern. They will host the next Business Meet-and-Greet (see below). They are very enthusiastically involving themselves in the community and appear to be off to a good start.

- **Sustainable CT** – No progress was reported, but Ginny Apple and Rob Fulton requested the password to the website so they could start to enter data into the site in an effort to get credit for work done previously and to get us started towards certification.
- **Business Meet-and-Greet/Volunteer Town Event** – The Commission members concurred with their previous decision to hold a town event (Welcome to Spring??) to recruit volunteers for non-profits and town groups, but decided to move it to March 14 from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Elementary School. Mark Mahoney agreed to organize the event, assisted by Brian Johnson, which has the purpose to try get more residents involved in volunteering for the Town, with

tables and handouts being available for the volunteer groups. Entertainment and food will be available as an attraction. Mark Mahoney will compile a list of organizations whose participation we should solicit, as well as other groups who could provide a draw to help attract folks to the event. For example, this could be the Robotics Team or Ti Trikes or simply vendors to provide food. Brian Johnson and Mark will work on publicizing the event through social media.

They also decided to schedule the next business meet-and-greet event on March 26 at the Old Riverton Inn from 5:30 to 7:00, which should be close to the time that they re-open the Tavern. More detailed plans will be developed at the February meeting, with the main goal to divide up the list of businesses for personal outreach. Discussions will need to take place with the inn regarding food and beverages, but that can take place as we get closer to the date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM on a motion by Kevin Noblet, seconded by Ginny Apple.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein