

Town of Barkhamsted
Economic Development Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2018

Meeting called to order at 8:15 PM

Attending members: Kathy Williams, Tim Deschenes-Desmond, and alternates Jenn Roller and Amy Starr. Ginny Apple was present during the pre-meeting discussion with the Conservation Commission and the Northwest Hills COG intern regarding Sustainable CT. Also present was Don Stein, First Selectman.

Tim Deschenes-Desmond was appointed as the Acting Chairman and Jenn Roller and Amy Starr were seated as members for the meeting.

Review of minutes: On a motion by Kathy Williams, seconded by Jenn Roller, the minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting were approved.

Discussion:

- Sustainable CT

Brooke Mercaldi, a college intern at the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, whose position was established to help the Towns with the Sustainable CT initiative, met with the EDC and the BCC to review the necessary actions for Certification and to assign responsibility for completing those actions. These actions and the commission/individual responsible for executing them are as follows:

1. Thriving Local Economies – EDC
2. Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources – BCC/PZC/BOS
3. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems – EDC
4. Dynamic and Resilient Planning – BCC/PZC/BOS
5. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices – BOS
6. Efficient Physical Infrastructure and Operations – BOS
7. Strategic and Inclusive Public Services – BCC/BOS
8. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing – Housing Trust
9. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts - BOS
10. Implement Your Own Sustainability Actions – TBD-

More planning and specific actions/assignments regarding the Sustainable CT initiative will take place at the next EDC meeting on August 16. The BCC will also do the same and Don Stein will work on issues outside the scope of these two commissions.

- There were no updates on the Tourist Map as Kevin Noblet was unable to attend.
- Kathy Williams took an action to provide an email with the feedback gathered at the Business Meet and Greet, for consideration by the members. The intention is to hold another similar event in the fall, possibly a late afternoon cocktail hour, with the objective of attracting additional participants who could not attend a morning meeting.

- The welcome kit initiative is on hold while an effort is made to gather more material for the kit. Debbie Brydon is actively involved in gathering handouts and brochures and the Women's Club is designing the bag that will be used for the giveaways.
- Tim Deschenes-Desmond presented the status of the community garden initiative – the Barkhamsted Historic Society and the DEEP have given preliminary approval the concept and location and a survey needs to be conducted to see if there is sufficient resident interest to build the garden. Fencing, raised beds and a water supply are needed, so a suggestion was made to apply to the Northwest CT Community Foundation for a Grant to support these financial needs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein