

LITCHFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

EDC Regular Meeting Minutes

Litchfield Town Office 74 West Street Litchfield, CT 06759
November 28, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Minutes (not approved)

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Cleve Fuessenich, Chair.

Present - Regular Members: Renée Betar, Cleve Fuessenich, Nancy MacMillan-Stedronsky, Tom Roman and Bea Thompson. Alternate Member: Anne Haas

Absent - Regular Members: Edgar Auchincloss and Pamela Orde; Alternate Member: Elaine Fay

Appointment of Alternates: Anne Haas for Pamela Orde

Public Comment: David Patchell, resident and Litchfield business owner (East Coast Sheet Metal, LLC with 40-45 employees), is interested in becoming a member of the Litchfield EDC.

Motion by B. Thompson to approve draft minutes of October 30, 2018 special meeting, as amended; N. MacMillan-Stedronsky seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Monthly economic updates per region
 - Bantam Updates;
 - Community holiday events (tree lighting, holiday celebrations and tree sale) are scheduled in November and December
 - Renovations at Mockingbird Kitchen are progressing but not yet handicap accessible.
 - Town meeting – Dec. 11/referendum – Dec 19 on sale of Town Annex in Bantam to Litchfield Housing Trust
 - Arts Factory has new signs.
 - Briarwoods Nursery is closed for the season.
 - East Litchfield
 - ELVIS meeting canceled – no update
 - Litchfield
 - Prime Finds, a pop-up seasonal business supporting Prime Time House, is open for November and December in the Yard.
 - Only two small retail spaces on the Green are vacant - one in Cobble Court and one sub-level on South Street.
 - Serendipity Gallery is planning future changes to the gallery, which will be open to a variety of artists and also for community use.
 - Merchants on the Green voiced concerns about potential negative effect on Green parking if town offices are moved to the former courthouse.
- Old Business
 - Litchfield Visitors' Booth
 - N. MacMillan-Stedronsky shared that the Litchfield borough received a Seherr-

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- Thoss grant to study on the Green's use, which would include the visitors' booth.
 - This winter EDC will monitor progress on the Green study, and continue to gather information and possible sources of funding for the visitors' booth project.
- Litchfield 300th Anniversary
 - The 300th executive committee is focused on drafting a logo that encompasses the spirit of Litchfield.
 - The committee is exploring fireworks and a scavenger hunt as possible activities.
- Litchfield road signs
 - No progress yet but the focus continues to be future regional coordination of signage.
- New Business
 - Adoption of EDC Meeting Schedule for 2019

A motion was made by A. Haas to adopt the EDC Meeting Schedule for 2019 as presented; T. Roman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
 - Around-the-corner on the Green (South St.) signage
 - N. MacMillan-Stedronsky will bring the Litchfield Historic Commission ideas including a directory of shops and sign posts with arrows.

Next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 30, 2019.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by T. Roman; B. Thompson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Betar, Secretary, Economic Development Commission

Mission Statement (adopted 5/17/2011)

The Economic Development Commission will stay informed on economic conditions and monitor trends within the Town of Litchfield and make recommendations to appropriate officials and agencies. The commission shall also take action to improve said economic conditions and seek to coordinate with the activities of various related commissions and unofficial organizations to further Litchfield's economic development well being.