

# LITCHFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## EDC Regular Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2021

Bantam Annex 80 Doyle Rd. Bantam, CT 06750

### Final

1) Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Will Neary, Chair.

Present: Regular Members: Tom Roman, Will Neary, Lindsey Turner, Christine Harding, Anne Hass, Cleve Fuessenich, Michele Murelli

Present Alternate Members: Renée Betar, DJ Murphy

Missing: Danielle Muecke

Ex-officio: Denise Raap, First Selectwoman, Litchfield

2) Approve minutes from July 28, 2021 EDC Regular Meeting as amended. Motion by Michele Murelli to accept minutes, Cleve Fuessenich seconded, all in favor, passed unanimously

3) Public Comment: Lelah Campo, owner of Cozy Hills Campground in attendance. Expressed interest in joining the EDC. Letter of intent to the Board of Selectmen is the next step. Burke Gibney also in attendance.

4) Updates:

1. EDC Task force updates: All Proposed:

a. Events: Michele: Bantam Arts Factory: Proposed date of 10/23 2-6pm. Open house for Bantam Makers Market Artists. Issues include accessibility, parking and crosswalk safety. Cleve will check in with Officer Peter Russo about costs/legal requirements for Police to man crosswalk. Requirements-will get back in touch with Michele 8/27 or end of week.

b. Marketing and Branding in Litchfield-Lindsey, Will

i. Branding Litchfield

ii . "Made in Litchfield"- Markers Market Made in Litchfield 10/23

iii . Holiday Stroll Sunday after Thanksgiving. Park and Rec. and Union Savings Bank-Lindsey will contact Union Savings Bank to see how we can help.

iv . Proposed Restaurant Week February/Valentine's Day Saturday 2/12-2/20

i. Passport for Restaurant week contact list for all Restaurants

ii. Lunch and Dinner Prix Fixe Menu Option

iii. Boho Alyssa Malloy is the contact 860-484-1452

iv. Will to distribute list of all restaurants and assigned contacts to edc by 9/1

v. Porch Concerts/outdoor stroll businesses outside/sidewalk festival

i. Borough must be included in this process-Summer 2022

vi. Bocce league in summer

5.) Tourism: Tom Roman

- a) Western CT tourism District- Proposed mobile coupon app, newsletter sponsorship opportunities, co op social media, looking to make more connections, eblasts encouraging participation, generating awareness, once they vote we can share our events. Tom will keep us updated. Cleve will scan slideshow and distribute.
- b) Information booth Renee: Discover Litchfield Hills brochure, visitlitchfieldct Facebook and Instagram
- c) LABA update DJ: Third Tuesday of every month, September 21, Tapping Reeve Meadow, rain backup Wisdom House, partnership with the EDC, Bring an item to stuff into welcome wagon style bags. October night meeting Black Bear Thursday 10/9 for LABA non profits interested in a table visit Blackbearamericanmusicfest.com hit the link. Cleve and Renee assembling a directory of business and services in the area.
- d) Opening a Business in Litchfield: Christine and Danielle Goal is to complete by end of year... Work with Realtors to help guide them appropriately

6.) Old and Unfinished Business:

- a). Merchants on the Green Group: Christine- due to lack of interest from West St. merchants so we will move to other initiatives. Parking sign waiting for Borough
- b) Litchfield Arts council update waiting for swearing in

7.) Future Events and funding: Lindsey-discussed during task force updates

8.) New Business Railroad Platform, state owns property. Heritage may already have a lease, Cleve has been in communication. Update by next meeting. Renee will keep her eye on Western Mass Rail Coalition.

- a) North Western Economic Regional Summit 5 points arts center 9/23 5pm NWCEDC. Free. Renee will forward to the whole team. Day trip ideas should be sent to Stephanie on NW council of the Arts.
- b) Doyle Road now has parking signs

9.) Adjourn: Cleve moves to adjourn, Michele Seconded all in favor 8:47pm

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Harding-Abbott

Secretary, Litchfield Economic Development Commission

Litchfield Economic Development Commission Mission Statement (adopted 06/10/2020) The mission is to promote sustainable economic diversity for Litchfield.