

**Economic Development Commission**  
**Wednesday, October 17, 2018**  
**SENEY MEETING ROOM Town Hall 6:30 P.M.**

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.

2018 OCT 23 A 11: 48

*Linda Paradise*  
TOWN CLERK ASST

**MINUTES**

I. The call to order by Chair Brian Yacino was at 6:40 PM  
Present: Chairman Brian Yacino Absent: Robert Larkin  
JoAnn Hall  
Brian Santos  
H. Charles Obert  
John Sharpe  
Tyra Penn-Gesek  
Also present: First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Ronda Rooney  
Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary

**II. Motion J. Hall seconded by J. Sharpe to approval the minutes of September 19, 2018 carried unanimously.**

III. Reports

1. Chairman-see agenda items
2. Treasurer: Copy of financial statement is provided; balance on hand is \$27,561. The Business of the Year plaque (\$25) will be in soon.
3. Other reports: none

IV. Update on Businesses in Town: A Certificate of Trade name for DBC Solutions came in. Quaddick Country Store has a new owner. Sweet Time Away (bakery) has not opened yet, and no paperwork has been received. The Joyasanah LLC ribbon cutting went well, with a good showing from the Business Association, town leaders and the public.

V. Citizen's Comments Pertaining to Agenda Items: C. Obert- last month we mentioned a more formal invitation to new businesses, with an offer to be of assistance with the start-up process. R. Rooney – will the EDC and Branding Subcommittee work together to target bringing the out-of-town person into the area? Has the new owner of The Quaddick Country Store been invited into the Business Association?

VI. Old Business

1. Review of Branding Implementation Plan/Strategy as approved by the Branding Sub-committee; possible action item: No Branding Subcommittee meeting was held last month. Chair B Yacino met with Renee Waldron, Subcommittee Chair; together they will organize an event, including a snack, for the "Unveiling" of the Strategic Plan, with Renee taking the lead.
2. Possible modification of the content of the Economic Development page of the newly-revised town website: K. Beausoleil – the website is targeted to go live at the end of November; all departments are reviewing their own

- web page content and determining what revisions/updates are needed. He hopes the EDC will provide guidance about preferred content. B. Santos – will follow up by contacting Renee.
3. Business of the Year Award -presented to the Milltown Grill at Community Day; the owner was very pleased to be recognized.
  4. BAR Grant report: to an audience question, K. Beausoleil noted that the Brownfields Area Revitalization Grant timing is about on-target; it takes 2 years for the permitting and remediation process, then another year for the construction. Then occupancy becomes available.
  5. Status of Town Planner position: M A Chinatti continues to monitor the grants one day a week; Planner applications have been received and distributed to the BOS for review. Two engineering firms have offered to assist on a contract basis, and NECCOG is discussing shared planning services as a possibility.
  6. 929 Riverside Drive Update: DEEP is working with all parties
  7. Website Status: see above
  8. Zoning Regulations revision status: in process. Next the RT 131/RT 12 Corridor revised text will be presented to the PZC.

#### VII. New Business

1. Schedule of EDC Meetings in 2019: After review/discussion- **Motion C. Obert seconded by J. Hall to approve the 2019 meeting schedule as proposed, with meetings at the Town Hall the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM, carried unanimously, with the schedule attached as part of these minutes.**
2. Other: Schedule for the November 2018 meeting. **Motion J. Hall seconded by C. Obert to cancel the November meeting, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, carried unanimously.**

#### VIII. Correspondence: Previous discussion of Adoption of Trade Name

IX. Comments by Commission Members: B. Santos- will resurrect the Welcome letter for new businesses and send out a draft.

Community Day feedback: B. Yacino- It appeared to be a lower turnout, maybe because of the change of date or because of Columbus Day weekend, but there were many new participants, who made positive comments. C. Obert -The field was muddy but a solution was worked out. The display of the vintage cars was another positive. If it catches on, the number of local car owners will increase. R. Rooney-the display of town equipment was another positive; people could see where their tax dollars are invested. Note was made that the sound system was inadequate, as the sound did not carry. C. Obert- the EDC should look into more promotional space in the Northeast Chamber Guide, as they will be re-printing in the spring. He will bring in information.

X. Next Meeting: **The November meeting is cancelled.** The next meeting will be December 19 at 6:30 PM.

XI. Adjournment was at 7:26 PM by Chairman B. Yacino

Respectfully Submitted; Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary      Dorothy Durst

*These minutes have not yet been approved by the Economic Development Commission. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.*

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**Thompson Economic Development Commission 2019 Meeting Schedule**

The Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Merrill Seney Room, Thompson Town Hall, unless otherwise scheduled.

Meeting dates for 2019:

Wednesday, January 16  
Wednesday, February 20  
Wednesday, March 20  
Wednesday, April 17  
Wednesday, May 15  
Wednesday, June 19  
Wednesday, July 17  
Wednesday, August 21  
Wednesday, September 18  
Wednesday, October 16  
Wednesday, November 20  
Wednesday, December 18

Approved by the Thompson Economic Development Commission 10-17-18