

**TOWN OF ASHFORD  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
5 TOWN HALL RD ASHFORD, CT 06278  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2011  
ROOM 112**

**Present:** R Fenn (Chairperson), J Rettenmeier, R Williams, D Rechel, M Chatey, J Calarese, M Gantick (alternate), Francine Hodovan (Recording Secretary).

- 1. Call to Order at 7:30pm.**
- 2. Seating of Alternates:** Motion was made by R. Fenn and seconded by D. Rechel to seat M. Gantik for D. Gag. The motion passed with everyone voting affirmatively.
- 3. Approve Minutes:** A motion was made by D. Rechel and seconded by J. Calarese to accept the minutes of the August 24, 2011 meeting of the ABOA as written. The motion passed with everyone voting affirmatively.
- 4. Budget Review of Current Expenditures :**  
The Budget Report was distributed for the last week of September, 2011.
- 5. Communications and Announcements**
  - A. General Announcements:**
    - Debra Gag has announced her resignation from Commission.
    - Rosario's returned a check for Buy Local pamphlets in the amount of \$187.25. It will be referred to Finance Department for deposit in the General Fund. The EDC will use as a credit until end of current fiscal year.
    - The Moore property sign is complete. Calarese and Fenn will handle installation.
    - REEBA (Renewable Energy & Efficiency Business Association). D. Williams gave an information only summary of Act 11-80, the Public Act combining the departments of energy and environment into the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. A handout summarizing PA 11-80

was circulated, as was a position paper by REEBA on implementation of the portion of that act. Of interest to the Town are programs (grants and credits) for the installation of solar, wind, and energy efficiency improvements.

**B. News from other Commissions:** None.

**C. Correspondence/Meetings Attended:**

SiteFinder, Ms Pasquale contacted. She is willing to run another training session on program.

Loretta Wrobel, of the Agriculture Commission, emailed EDC to inquire about adding farm businesses to ABOA Directory. Fenn responded providing Directory Data sheet.

Gerald Nagy, Library Board Chair, is requesting that each Commission to create 6-panel brochure explaining their activities. He included a sample copy. They are developing a program called "All About Ashford". M. Chatey agree to create first draft.

Sherry York, Rec. Dept., sent a note regarding Family Day indicating she had received some ideas from local businesses for next year. M. Chatey agreed to follow-up with Sherry.

Received an e-mail from Economic Development Marketing, a California, a consulting firm, offering services. Material passed around for members review.

**D. Presentations:** None.

**E. Guests:** None.

**6. Old Business:**

**A. Ashford Business owner Association:**

J. Calarese has contacted Midway Restaurant regarding our ABOA kickoff meeting. Midway will provide a meeting room and food with two days notice for \$250.00.

After discussion it was decided that the EDC members would e-mail R. Fenn with their preferred date of either 10/12 or 10/19

Agreed to create an info. packet for attendees to include a list of names and business contact information, one page information sheet about the EDC taken from the website. M. Chatey volunteered to provide. Will include the "Buy Local" pamphlet and cling, membership application, ABOA by-laws and Mission Statement. Also the list of guest businesses.

At the meeting M. Chatey will give an overview of the EDC and its objectives. A round robin introduction will follow, with attendees giving their name and business. Dinner will follow. Groups will break out and discuss suggested ABOA issues. The meeting will end with a wrap-up discussion with a consensus to continue the Association and hold on-going meetings.

Phone calling list was divided up among the group. Commission members will make calls after final date is established.

#### **B. CERC SiteFinder Update:**

With Sharon Corr leaving, we need a couple of members to help maintain our subscription entries. J. Calarese and M. Gantic have agreed to work with R Fenn.

An updated list of properties will be compiled.

Fenn will provide copies of existing instruction material to J. Calarese and M Gantic, and arrange for CERC to hold an instruction session.

Two additional properties will be added to subscription

#### **C. Buy Local Project:**

Tabled There were no new initiatives.

**D. Planning Project:**

J. Rittenmeier moved and D. Rechel seconded a motion to table the discussion on the Planning Project for another meeting. The motion passed with everyone voting affirmatively.

**7. New Business:**

**A. Discussion of the US Pure Energy issue.**

D. Williams discussed the latest information he had gathered with regard other towns who have dealt with recycling plants.

Discussion about how to contact P&ZC and the timing of such.

The following motion was made by D. Williams and seconded by J. Calarese:

**“To take zoning issues to 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman and ask his advice on the best way to meet with the Town Attorney, Antoinette Webster, to provide information to her on previous and current court cases and fee structures concerning solid waste recycling facilities.**

The motion passed with everyone voting affirmatively. Fenn to contact 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman.

**8. Adjournment:**

A motion was made by J. Calarese and seconded by D. Rechel to adjourn. The motion passed with everyone voting affirmatively.

The Regular Meeting of the AEDC for September 28, 2011 adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Francine Hodovan  
Recording Secretary**