

Received  
5/5/2018

**TOWN OF ASHFORD  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
5 TOWN HALL RD ASHFORD, CT 06278  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, May 23, 2018**

**PRESENT:** R. Ignatowicz, R. Williams, T. Wakeman  
G. Lawrence, M. Gantick

1. **Call to Order** – 7:40 PM
2. **Seating of Alternates** – none
3. **Approval of March Minutes** – Mike/Bob – passed
4. **Budget**
  - a. Williams submitted Anything Printed invoice for UConn report copies to be paid. Gantick turned in receipts for RSA lunch and FB boosts.
  - b. Members wanted a copy of the NECCOG CEDS – This is outstanding. Williams will send PDF to Anything Printed and get 8 copies made.
  - c. Estimated funds remaining - \$700
  - d. Discussed the need for generic EDC business cards – Williams will do a design and look into ways to produce a small number.
  - e. Approval of report – Bob/ Gary- passed
5. **Communications and Announcements**
  - a. Announcements –
    - i. Dr. Charles L Bizilj -Internal Medicine and Tick Clinic and Misty Doering, MS, APRN, CNS-BC-Specializing in migraines, headaches, memory problems, post concussions issues, and more have opened up a practice here in Ashford on May 2, 2018.
    - ii. CEDAS has an opportunity to add more local tourist links to their website. Mike will look into it.
  - b. Presentations – none
  - c. News from Other Commissions.
    - i. PZC
      1. The new Fee Ordinance was adopted as an amended section in the Land Use Regulations following a Public Hearing on 4/9/18.
      2. A new Zoning Map is still being developed with NECCOG doing the graphics. A draft was discussed at the April meeting.
      3. Work is starting on revising the residential lot size requirements.
  - d. ABA News
    - i. The ABA continues to grow. Now at 80+members
    - ii. Cruise Nights are starting this month. The first one will benefits Veterans.
  - e. Correspondence and Meetings
    - i. None

## 6. Old Business

- a. EDC Marketing and Communications
  - i. No activity.
- b. Website Modifications (Chatey, Gantick, Williams) -
  - i. Williams contacted MadComm to discuss status – the EDC site is fully functional and operating on the MadComm developmental server. Williams looked at the structure, navigation, and materials populating the site.
  - ii. Williams sent MadComm the 2015 POCD Word content and high-resolution artwork last week and expect the website to be functional soon.
- c. Our Town-Our Future (Fenn, Gantick).
  - i. Core group continues to meet and narrowed the projects to four.
    - 1. Communications – no activity
    - 2. Mt. Hope River Trail –Conservation Commission and Joshua Trust have agreed to support the project. Several trail walks were held last month to lay out the trail. The BOS have given their blessing to the project.
    - 3. Inventory of Historic Buildings and Places - Kick off meeting was held 4/5/18 in the Senior Center. Attendance was low due conflicting with other Town meetings. A second try is planned at a later date.
    - 4. EDC Support and West Ashford Development – focus on RSA (see below).
  - ii. Terry Wakeman continues to work on a fifth project (either through OT-OF or the EDC). This project would develop maps and materials on all of the trails with Ashford, with the idea of making the town a hiking destination. No further report at this time.
- d. Retail and Services Enterprise Zone (Ignatowicz, Lawrence, Williams)
  - i. Bob completed a package to solicit interest in building a drug store in West Ashford.
    - 1. Bob resubmitted his formal proposal to Walgreens last month. He has not been able to speak with the District Manager directly. He is also contacting a developer (SRS) that works with Walgreens.
    - 2. The Realtor representing the Hoffman property has lost the listing. Gary was to have contacted the owners. No update
    - 3. The Town crew “kind of” cleared the Moore property but more work needs to be done.
  - ii. Other business news.
    - 1. Mike featured Sean Patrick and Squaw Hollow Commons on the OT-OF Facebook page with a “boost”. The post reached 2,300 people.
  - iii. Sneaker Property
    - 1. The owners of the property, Mark and Sandy Pensa, had agreed to clean out the interior to make it more marketable. No activity to date.

- iv. The DOT Road Safety Audit (RSA) of RT 74/RT 44 corridor is was held on 4/24/18. Mike Gantick led the effort for the EDC. Ray Fenn and John Rettenmeir also participated. Mike Zambo and several other Town employees participated.
  - 1. Overall 16 people from CT DOT, UConn, NECCOG, Ashford and other surrounding towns participated.
  - 2. DOT proactively asked what the state could do to help Ashford. A number of specific opportunities were identified with the focus on West Ashford and Warrentville.
  - 3. Mike (with State and UConn input) is pulling together a detailed report.
  - 4. Thanks to Mike for all of his work on this project!
- e. Wagon Shed Property
  - i. No report.
- f. Buy Local Initiative (Chatey/Williams)
  - i. Margaret told the group in March that she has 90% of the edits to the trifold brochure completed. Williams will contact her to get an electronic copy. Ray has agreed to complete it.
- 7. New Business**
  - a. None
- 8. Input from Public – None**
- 9. Member Input for Next Agenda - None**
- 10. Adjournment - 9:00 PM**

Prepared by R. S. Williams, Chair