

**ESSEX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
ESSEX TOWN HALL
November 12, 2015 - 4:00PM**

The Essex Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, November 12, 2015 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Chairman Lon Seidman, Robert Laundry, David Sousa, Ed Cook, Betsy D'Amico and Janet Peckinpaugh. Also in attendance Susan Malan, Consultant and Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Commission. Absent: David Winstead

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Seidman at 4:00pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by David Sousa and seconded by Robert Laundry the Commission **VOTED** to approve the minutes from October 14, 2015 Essex Economic Development Commission meeting.

INTRODUCTION

Visitors:

None

Commissioner

No Comment.

REPORT FROM TOWN HALL/CONSULTANT

The application for Savour Bakery has been appealed by another tenant in Spencer's Corner. This will go back to the Zoning Board of Appeals for review. The WPCA submitted a letter to Zoning regarding rentals through AirBNB and other online services and how this could affect homeowner's septic systems. Cumberland Farms received approvals from the ZBA for their initial proposal. Elephant Crossing has opened in the space that was Gather. The owner of the building is considering alternatives for the space long term. It was noted that Benny's has not been sold. The curb cut for Witch Hazel will be done in the spring. Ms. Malan discussed having a survey sent to business owners to find out what residents want focused on in the villages. This will be discussed further with the First Selectman.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

List of Business Owner Contact Information

Ms. Malan would like to get email addresses for all business owners so that pertinent information may be easily communicated. There are 720 addresses that need to be validated. Ms. Malan will distribute a Google spreadsheet for review and updating. Next month the Commission will discuss the cost to do this. This list will be subject to FOI.

Ms. Malan stated that the Essex Rotary pledged \$5,000 for the painting of the bridges.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Zoning Signage Regulations

This is still being discussed.

Centerbrook STEAP Grant

Essex did not receive the grant. We will consider reapplying in the future.

Plan of Conservation and Development

There is a meeting tonight. Items which pertain to EDC are being updated. Mr. Laundry will give a list of the updates to the members via email.

NEW BUSINESS

The members discussed several business related matters intown.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded the Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Commission Clerk