

**ESSEX ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
ESSEX TOWN HALL
October 14, 2015 - 4:00PM**

The Essex Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 4:00pm. In attendance were Chairman Lon Seidman, Robert Laundry, David Sousa, David Winstead and Janet Peckinpaugh. Also in attendance Susan Malan, Consultant and Kelley Frazier, Secretary to the Commission. Absent: Ed Cook and Betsy D'Amico

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Janet Peckinpaugh and seconded by Lon Seidman the Commission **VOTED** to approve the minutes from September 12, 2015 Essex Economic Development Commission meeting. Abstentions: David Sousa and David Winstead

INTRODUCTION

Visitors:

Judy Heiser, Essex Board of Trade

Ms. Heiser discussed the events happening in our town this fall and winter. This is a very busy time of year for the villages.

Commissioner

No Comment.

Savour Bakery

Kim Thomas introduced herself and her pastry chef, Danielle Hoff. She is going through the zoning approval process for her bakery/bistro to be named Savour Café and Bakery. She will be located in an approximately 2000 square foot space in Spencer's Corner. There will be seating for 20. She is hopeful to open sometime in March 2016. The process for approval was discussed. Mr. Seidman suggested that the EDC write a letter in support of this business. A business such as this will help to revitalize Centerbrook.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Seidman and seconded by Mr. Laundry the Essex Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to endorse Savour Café and Bakery's application for approval and will write a letter to the Zoning Board indicating this.

REPORT FROM TOWN HALL/CONSULTANT

Ms. Malan gave a brief update. She noted that the Tap Room of the Blue Hound is now open and serving food. Cumberland Farms will be presenting at the ZBA meeting on Monday. There is someone interested in purchasing Benny's market. Porky Pete's opened a new location in the Ivoryton Inn.

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

Members Up for Renewal

There was a brief discussion about members whose terms are complete. Mr. Seidman, Mr. Sousa and Ms. D'Amico are completing their terms. Mr. Sousa would like to continue on the Board. Mr. Seidman will verify with Ms. D'Amico as to whether she would like to continue on the Economic Development Commission.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ivoryton Grant / Construction Progress

Work is now complete.

Zoning Signage Regulations

This is tabled at this time.

Centerbrook STEAP Grant

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

Plan of Conservation and Development

There was a public hearing to discuss the Plan. Minor changes have been made to the Conservation Map. This may be adopted at the next meeting on November 12th. Mr. Seidman asked members to review the document on line. EDC has some areas of the plan they will be asked to contribute towards.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded the Economic Development Commission unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Commission Clerk