TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

June 21, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:30. In attendance were J. Wesa, N. Soto and T. Hanson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 17, 2015 -- A MOTION was made (Soto, Hanson) to accept the minutes as amended; TWO IN FAVOR, ONE ABSTENTION.

A MOTION was made (Hanson, Soto) to add Social Media Policy to the agenda; ALL IN FAVOR.

Ms. Hanson explained the reason for a Social Media Policy as to keep track of town information and have an appropriate representation of the town.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS: None

GUESTS: Ron Becotte arrived during the meeting. He is concerned about the proposed gun range and had talked with the head ranger and done research. He noted that the area includes the National Heritage Corridor which was granted by Congress and could possibly be used as a deterrent.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE: Available for Commissioners’ perusal:

* Mr. Wesa spoke with Ron Becotte about the National Heritage Corridor that could be used against the gun range.
* Mr. Wesa went to a meeting of the Friends of the Pachaug Forest, a 501(c)3. Well represented by Bob Panko. There are calls and propositions for preservation of the forest.
* Mr. Wesa went to a commercial real estate meeting where a person from SECTER gave a presentation. Mr. Wesa didn’t see help for Voluntown

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Website/Facebook – The website is being continuously updated

Farmers Market – There were no additional applications from vendors. Brewster’s Orchards and 100 Acre Farm are not returning. 4300 rack cards are being paid for from the grant. The storage container and portajohn will be delivered the week before opening day. Arrangements were made for moving equipment and supplies. Music has been scheduled thanks to Janet Cool.

Business Development/P&Z — Mr. Soto said work on the Plan of Conservation and Development is ongoing. P&Z is looking to have lots of input. Work being done by Al Daigneault was approved. Ms. Hanson said P&Z Chair Scott Davis suggested a town ordinance for special events. Mr. Soto tried contacting Courtney Henderson but spoke with someone else and got information on a presentation from CERC possibly in October.

Eastern Tourism – Trail maps are available and will be distributed. Waiting for invoice.

Business Directory — No report

Trails Brochure — See Eastern Tourism

Historical Update – Wylie School Committee is working on getting repairs done. Attorney is working on Meeting House.

BUDGET — 17/18 budget, which concludes June 30, was gone over.

OLD BUSINESS — None

NEW BUSINESS — None

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING — September 20, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 on a motion (Soto, Hanson); ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana M. Ingraham, Clerk

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