TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

October 18, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:38. In attendance were J. Wesa and T. Hanson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 20, 2018 -- A MOTION was made (Hanson, Wesa) to accept the minutes as amended; ALL IN FAVOR.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS: None

GUESTS: Mark Simmons, potential commissioner; Ryan Snide of Friends of Pachaug Forest

Mr. Snide is seeing their group growing. Connecticut Forestry and Parks has been contacted. The Job Bank was a big help. Mr. Wesa said people are looking for mountain bike trails. Enhancing trails that already there is the goal. Mr. Snide said Great Cedar Swamp is nationally recognized and should be included on the trails map.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE: Available for Commissioners’ perusal:

* Mr. Wesa attended a meeting of the Connecticut Office of Tourism and shared handouts. They want to hear what is being done.
* Ms. Hanson said at a Selectmen’s meeting there was a request for an ordinance change to require establishments within five hundred of each other

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Website/Facebook – Logan Hanson will enter the business directory onto the website as part of community service.

Farmers Market – The Market had approximately the same amount of people as 2017; the same number, but different, vendors and an increase in WIC. Ms. Hanson said seniors would be a good addition next year.

Business Development/P&Z — Office of Tourism would come to promote Voluntown. Attempts are continuing to get CERC to do a presentation to local businesses and town government. At least 20-25 people would be required. A gingerbread house contest will be put on by the Recreation Commission in December. It will also have local vendors.

Eastern Tourism – Trail map revision and printing will be next project.

Business Directory — See Website/Facebook

Trails Brochure — See Eastern Tourism

Historical Update – Work on Wylie School is in progress.

BUDGET — No report

OLD BUSINESS — None

NEW BUSINESS — Mr. Wesa will write the Department of Agriculture grant for next year’s Farmers Market

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING — October 18, 2018 – Mr. Simmons decided that he would submit a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen to become a Commissioner.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 on a motion (Hanson, Wesa); ALL IN FAVOR.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana M. Ingraham, Clerk

Approved for distribution\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_