

# TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

February 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:30. In attendance were J. Wesa, M. Papenfoth, T. Hanson, J. Cool.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 21, 2016 — A motion was made (Cool, Papenfoth) to accept the minutes with one correction; all in favor.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

GUESTS: None — Mr. Wesa has been trying to contact Vinnie Cofone to talk about the upcoming Farmers' Market season.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE: Available for Commissioners' perusal:

- Planning and Zoning minutes are available on the town website;
- A letter from the Department of Agriculture regarding the grant;
- An invitation from Connecticut Tourism for a marketing outreach meeting in Groton on March 9; Mr. Wesa will try to go;
- Documentation for a memorandum of understanding for the Farmers' Market; not applicable due to small size of market;
- A thank you letter from the Last Green Valley for Corporate Neighbor Partnership donation;
- Microsoft workup given to Ms. Hanson;
- Articles from the Norwich Bulletin;
- A driveway situation brought forth the need for revising Planning and Zoning regulations. Selectmen will get information from NECOGG regarding blight.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Eastern Connecticut Tourism — No report

Business Directory — A quote was received from Minuteman Press. \$575 for 250 copies; \$900 for 500 copies. Marisa Calvo's prices were comparable. James Dodd was \$500 for 250 copies. Ms. Hanson suggested going online for more information.

Farmers' Market — T. Hanson got a volunteer, Jeanne Hampton, to help with mailings, etc. The first week of March is the target for mailings to go out. Mr. Wesa will contact WCTY for radio ads. There will be a winter market in Plainfield on March 5. The town clerk will have vendor applications. Black Dog Market is changing to Friday evenings. Bozrah will have a spring country market.

EDC Website/Voluntown.Biz — T. Hanson started an EDC Facebook page. Updates are being done. The Business Directory will go on when completed. Vendor information will be added. She will check to see if the Plan of Conservation and Development can be added.

New Methodist Meeting House — Karen Britt is chairing a committee for historical buildings.

Project Flow Chart — no report

Other — Ms. Hanson is one representative on the Committee for the National Park Service for local Pawcatuck River watershed. She will ask Mr. Soto if he will be the other representative.

Community Networking Night — Margaret Volland and Andrea Kelly gave a presentation on the school garden. They are looking for help. Mary Sullivan wants to start a town garden club. Melinda Bryan and Judith Allik presented on the Youth Service Bureau and Juvenile Review Board. They are looking for volunteers and community service projects. Mr. Wesa spoke about the trails pamphlet project. James MacBride spoke about bicycle trails. There was a discussion on the tercentennial in 2021. There will be another meeting before summer.

Trails brochure — There is a need to move on the timeline. Mr. Wesa met with the new state forest supervisor who was very informative. He also got information for bicycle trails. Jen Panko had completed twelve trails. Girl Scouts will do one trail.

BUDGET — The proposed 2016/2017 budget was discussed. Farmers' Market entertainment was discussed as part of the budget. A MOTION was made (Cool, Papenfoth) to send the proposed budget to the Selectmen; all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS — None

NEW BUSINESS — None

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING —

The meeting adjourned at 8:15; (Cool, Wesa).

Respectfully submitted, Diana M. Ingraham, Clerk

Approved for distribution \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_