TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION Virtual Meeting Mary 20, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:03.

IN ATTENDANCE: T. Hanson, J. Wesa, M. Simmons, A. Binder

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None available

GUESTS: R. Snide, Friends of Pachaug Forest – Mr. Snide is taking information for their website and shared some of their upcoming events. June 12 is the 17th Annual Connecticut Open House Day. Mr. Wesa thought the EDC and FoPF should do something together. Ms. Hanson thought the Historical Society might also take part. Mr. Snide said they were doing a waterway cleanup that day.

Upcoming Events: June 6 – Trails Day hikes; June 13 – Chainsaw Training class at DEEP headquarters; July 24 – Moonlight Paddle at Pachaug; July 31 – Hike.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE: Available for Commissioners perusal:

--Ms. Hanson received an email regarding a Renaissance Fair. The Renaissance Fair at Tamarack Lodge had parking issues. Tamarack is for sale.

--An invitation from The Last Green Valley to attend their annual meeting on June 3 in Lebanon. Mr. Snide said he was going.

-- Mr. Simmons received an application for the farmers market from Miss Behaving. The town is holding the insurance forms.

--Country Comfort Cooking applications

--Three months of Preserving Connecticut magazine and request for membership renewal.

--A bill from 99 Main for website.

--Grant has been awarded and needs to be completed by June. FoPF had received calls. All has been accomplished; final reports need completion.

FARMERS MARKET: There will be follow-up with Vinnie.

Musicians thought to be possible this year. Mr. Wesa will make contacts. Sponsorships are being sought for the cost of musicians.

COVID protocols will not be in place this year.

New signs will be investigated by Mr. Binder. A MOTION WAS MADE (Simmons, Wesa) to authorize spending up to \$250 for signs, ALL IN FAVOR.

TRAIL MAPS: They are going to the printer.

VOLUNTOWN.BIZ/WEBSITE: COVID information has been posted on FaceBook.

The website needs to be updated for the farmers' market.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Planning and Zoning went over plans and is moving forward. The town is working on an affordable housing plan.

A new diner is opening.

Food trucks need to be registered with Uncas Health and must be inspected by the fire marshal.

EASTERN CT TOURISM: Travel centers are open again and want 250 to 500 flyers. Marketing money is being used for businesses on CTvisit.com. Businesses get free advertising and events are listed. Links and photos are used.

The Connecticut building at the Big E is looking for brochures and volunteers.

HISTORICAL UPDATE: A request for proposal is being worked on for the Methodist Church with a call to have action before the next winter.

Wylie School will be painted on June 5. Windows are being rebuilt. Flagpole is being repaired.

BUDGET: The current budget was gone over. Mr. Wesa will talk to Minuteman Press about rack cards.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING: June 17, 2021 – Farmers Market

A MOTION to adjourn was made (Hanson, Wesa); ALL IN FAVOR to adjourn at 8:39.

Respectfully submitted, Diana M. Ingraham, Clerk Approved for distribution______

_Date_____