

GOSHEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING – MINUTES

FEBRUARY 28, 2022 6 – 7 PM

In Person and Zoom

PRESENT: Todd Carusillo, Peter Kujawski (alternate), Scott Olson, Anne Green, Heidi Koenig. **GUEST:** Madeline Flynn - 25 Tyler Heights Extension **ZOOM** – Cindy Barrett, Judy Armstrong, Bernie Harrington, Judy Motel, Doreen Deary, Brigitte Michaud, Heather Turri. **ABSENT:** Clint Thorn, William Commerford, Dr. Jeff Damiano

CALL TO ORDER: Scott Olson called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Peter Kujawski and seconded by Heidi Koenig to approve January 24, 2022 minutes. It was voted to accept the motion. Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott mentioned, as per last month's meeting, that anyone in attendance with questions can interject at any time as the meeting progresses. Welcome to several zoom participants who were from the GBC – Judy Motel, Bernie Harrington and Cindy Barret. Discussion regarding the mutual interest of the GBC and EDC, as the mission between the two entities is very similar. Hopes of further collaboration and communication for mutual benefits.

OLD BUSINESS: A). **Signs** – discussion regarding Welcome signs entering Goshen – both ends of Rt. 4 and Rt. 63. This would not change individual business signs. Heidi Koenig discussed her research with Ghi Sign Services of Canaan, CT. Most signs are on private property, as signs on state property have a long process for approval (can take years). Signs can cost from \$1,000 to \$5,000 which includes installation. Hand carved signs are more costly. Discussion regarding how the funds would be obtained (fund raising, etc.). Heidi brought up the idea of working with the Goshen Garden club to decorate the signs each season. Anne Greene read information obtained from Dr. Jeff Damiano. Jeff's report – Adopt a Highway of Acknowledgement has easier guidelines to follow. We might look at Community Way vs Village Area Gateway signs. This will be re-visited at next meeting.

Peter Kujawski and Scott Olson had a meeting with EDC and GBC which went very well. This was to open up communication and work together for mutual interests. There is a family who purchased property in the center of town and desires a farm stand on it. There are some road blocks which can cause the process of applications to be lengthy. The issue has been tabled until next month and then in 2 months a public hearing. Discussion continued on the re-development of the traffic circle. Scott Olson suggested setting up a Special meeting to discuss this further. This will be done at next meeting.

B). **EDC Town liaison** – last month it was discussed and agreed that all board members will volunteer as a liaison to new people requesting business information in town. When a new person goes to town hall they will get board members information and can contact them for information on the application process and how to navigate it. Commission members discussed the importance of this. Anne Green stated that training on how to be a liaison would be helpful. Discussion on whether board members should attend public hearings for applications that go before P & Z.

C). **UNFINISHED BUSINESS/IDEAS 2020-2021** - Next meeting a copy of EDC's list of work/projects will be passed out to all members. Items not completed will go on the agenda. Ideas to address will be chosen as a group.

D). EDC WEB PAGE: The EDC webpage is on the home page of Goshen website. It has not been updated in some time. We are currently looking for someone to keep it up to date. Todd Carusillo to talk to Virginia about it.

E). EDC DRAFT PAMPHLET: Anne Green and Heidi Koenig presented a pamphlet to attract new business to town. Anne Green made a motion to pass out the pamphlet to all commission members for review. Peter Kujawski seconded. Motioned cleared.

NEW BUSINESS: Planning and zoning applications/ public comments. Much discussion surrounding the issue - is it customary for EDC to go to public hearings with P & Z to show support and act as a liaison. It was suggested to speak with Marty Connor or Don Wilkes chairman of P & Z for clarification of any legal issues. It was also discussed that GBC would be helpful in advocating as well. It might be best to show support as a citizen vs an EDC commissioner, per Scott Olson. There will be a public hearing soon on a family from Cornwall putting in a year round farm stand in Goshen.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7PM in a motion by Peter Kujawski and seconded by Anne Green.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Marie Bate

MARIE BATE

COMMISSION CLERK

Received March 2, 2022 @ 1:09 P.M.

Attest: Brian Z. Blue
Goshen Town Clerk