

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) held their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 24th, 2015 at the Notch Road Municipal Center, Room 10 with Chair Neal Kerr presiding. Commission members present were Milton Hathaway, Scott Rich, Cathy Teller and Bill Anderson; and business owner Tony Bonito (left at 7:35 P.M.).

1. Call to Order

Neal Kerr called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Approval/Modification of Minutes to the December 2, 2014 Meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Teller, seconded by Mr. Kerr approve the regular meeting minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting. Motion unanimously passed.

Approval/Modification of Minutes of February 24, 2015 Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Kerr to approve the regular meeting minutes of the February 24, 2015 meeting, with the following amendments:

Item 2...Remove approval of minutes. Minutes were tabled to March 24th meeting for approval.

Item 5..."Ms. Teller provided a copy of the Annual Report for the Economic Development Commission that was submitted."

Motion unanimously passed.

3. Public Comment/Introduction of Guests

Tony Bonito owner of the Gulf Station at 262 Boston Turnpike shared the history of his business. He was approached to put a Dunkin Donuts at his location. He was unable to do so because the town's regulations do not allow drive-ins. Commission members advised Mr. Bonito to review the Route 44 Study and to submit suggestions for the Plan of Conservation and Development for consideration.

4. On-going Business

A. Commission Members' Reports

1. P&Z Activities: Mr. Kerr reported that the P&Z has continued their work on the Planning of Conservation and Development. The Commission is continuing to accept input from residents and business owners.

Mr. Hathaway shared the he has researched other communities in Tolland County regarding drive through regulations. He will be providing the information to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Commission continued discussion on submitting a letter regarding the Plan of Conservation and Development. The letter will include suggestions to become a more "business friendly" town. Ms. Teller will draft a letter for review by the other commission members.

2. Vibrant Communities Initiative (VCI) Grant

Mr. Rich reported that he attended a meeting on Thursday, February 26th. The group discussed possibilities for the bond package. Mr. Rich reviewed the items that are on the list. Items include renovations at Bolton Heritage Farm, Recreation Fields at the High School and renovation of Town Hall. There will be a public meeting at Town Hall on Monday, March 30th to review the list of items.

3. Regular Meetings with Land Use Boards

Mr. Kerr reported that he and Bill attended the meeting. Members of other commissions were present to discuss each commission. The group briefly discussed meeting with the boards and commissions again in the future. Mr. Kerr will notify the rest of the commission when the next meeting is.

4. Budget

A copy of the current month budget report was distributed.

5. Outreach

Nothing to Report.

a. Route 44 Trail-Public Information Meeting

Ms. Teller reported that she attended the public informational meeting regarding the trail. The PowerPoint that was presented at the meeting is available on the Town of Bolton website. The two options that were discussed was an on road and off road trail. There was more support in favor of the off road trail.

B. Bolton Business Yellow Pages

Mr. Anderson reported that the list is almost complete to post to the town website. The group also discussed providing information to the Bolton Bulletin.

C. Update EDC Website/Mission

Nothing new to report.

D. Branding Project

Ms. Teller reported that the "Monday Memo" series emailed by Roger Brooks, has ended. The group discussed they will move forward with working on the branding.

5. New Business

A. BWC Long Term Project

Ms. Teller reported that the Bolton Women's Club is asking for information from the Economic Development Commission regarding installing a new Welcome to Bolton Sign. The group reviewed information that was obtained in 2007 when it was considered then. Ms. Teller will provide an estimate for 2-3 signs at approximately \$3,500.00 for each sign.

6. Announcements

A. Next EDC Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Notch Road Municipal Center.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Teller, seconded by Mr. Rich to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Bolduk
Board Clerk