

The Economic Development Commission held their regular meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at the Notch Road Municipal Center, Room 9 with Vice-Chair Cathy Teller presiding. Also in attendance was member Scott Rich and via telephone, member Jeanne Webb.

I. Call to Order

Mrs. Teller called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

**II. Approval/Modification of Minutes
February 22, 2012 Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Mr. Rich, seconded by Ms. Webb to approve the minutes as presented. Motion unanimously passed.

III. Public Comment/Introduction of Guests

None.

IV. On-going Business

A. Commission Members' Reports

Mrs. Teller shared with the group a copy of the Annual Report that was submitted to Elna Dimock.

1. Rt. 6 REDC

2. Rt. 44

The group reviewed aspects of the Route 44 area that should be considered:

- develop an overall look of Route 44 that tie in all attributes of the area, make it a destination
- focus on enhancing the businesses in the Notch Area
- connect Bolton Lake to the node in the Notch area and then to Freija Park
- welcome bikers and walkers

Ms. Webb discussed possibly contacting DECD and DEEP for funding to acquire property in the area. Mrs. Teller will research tax records for properties in the area. Mr. Rich will look at how the Route 6 Study ties in with the Route 44 Study.

The group discussed signage for the area. Ms. Webb offered to look into costs of signs for the area. The group discussed various ways to raise funds for the project, including asking businesses to "sponsor" the signs. Mrs. Teller did inform the group that there is an Economic Development Trust Fund established to accept donations.

By consensus, the group agreed to continue to work on the Route 44 Study and the Route 6 Study as it relates to the Route 44 Study.

3. P&Z Activities

No updates.

4. Bolton Business Yellow Pages

Mr. Rich suggested that the Bolton Business Yellow Pages be added to the main page of the town website. Additionally, the group discussed having two versions available on line, one by category and one alphabetized.

Ms. Webb referred to Rochester, NH as an example for a Business Directory. She will forward on the information.

Mrs. Teller will check with the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce for suggestions on distribution.

B. Outreach

1. Ribbon cutting ceremonies

Mrs. Teller will talk to the TCCC about Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies, and how they could help.

2. Coventry Farmers Market

Mrs. Teller shared with the group an email from the Director of the Coventry Farmer's Market. Their market is by invitation only, however provided a website where vendors can express their interest.

3. TCCC Membership

Mrs. Teller shared with the board a copy of the letter notifying the town of their membership. Mrs. Teller will try to attend an upcoming meeting to find out what services are now available to EDC. Ms. Webb suggested having someone from TCCC attend an upcoming EDC meeting.

V. New Business

A. DECD Event

Mrs. Teller shared that she received confirmation that DECD would be willing to take part in an event for the Bolton Small Businesses.

VI. Announcements

A. Appointment of S. Rich to EDC

Mrs. Teller shared with the board a copy of the letter appointing Scott Rich to the EDC.

B. Next EDC Regular Meeting is on April 25, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in Room 9 of the Notch Road Municipal Center.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Webb, seconded by Mrs. Teller to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 P.M. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Bolduk
Board Clerk