

Economic Development Commission  
P.O. Box 308  
Somers, Connecticut 06071

**EDC Minutes**  
**September 10, 2007**  
Selectmen's Conference Room  
Town Hall

**Call to Order**

Chairman Lou Bachetti called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Attendance**

Members present were Louis Bachetti, Robert Schmidt, Ron Elliott, Maura Gardiner, David Reed and Richard Cheney. First selectman, David Pinney joined the group for the discussion concerning the Somersville Streetscape and the status of the Somersvill mill.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Maura Gardiner and seconded by Robert Schmidt that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved without change. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence

Chairman Bachetti referenced the recent Money Magazine article which listed Somers as the 53rd best place in the US to live. Discussion followed as to how the EDC would weave this in to promoting business for the town and that this recognition should be entered on the town web site.

Project Progress Reports

Somersville Streetscape

David Reed updated the group on the status of the presentation to the Selectmen. The committee asked the first selectman what the next steps were in the implementation concerning the recommendations. David Pinney mentioned that he was in discussions with the consulting firm that was used for this project and awaiting a final list of proposed items to be implemented, the costs associated with each item and a list of potential funding source. Discussion followed as to next steps and who would be spear heading the effort to move this project along. At present it has not been determined however there has been some thought given to asking the team which was involved in the original project to Shepard this.

Somers Business Steering Committee

Ron Elliott updated the group concerning the activities of the Somers business steering committee. The committee met on August 20, 2007 and has scheduled the quarterly business meeting for September 24, 2007. The meeting will be held at the recreation area on Field road with the theme being an ice cream social. Rich's Drive in and Rockville Bank will sponsor this event. The format for the meeting will be to have four businesses speak as to what they do and to select four other businesses to do the same at the next meeting. The steering committee will also ask its membership to consider becoming a member of the steering committee. It is the recommendation of the EDC that the new steering committee meet no later than one week after this event to set the agenda for the next meeting. The EDC will also supply a topic and a discussion leader for the next quarterly meeting which will be of interest to the group and focuses on their identified wants.

#### Way finder Signs

Bob Schmidt will meet with the Somers business steering committee to review the work that has been done to date and solicit their input.

#### Status of the of Somersville Mill

Lou Bachetti reported that an advisory committee has been established to review proposals for the re-use of the mill. At present there are three groups interested in developing the mill property. The committee has scheduled a meeting for September 26, to review their proposals.

#### Review status of 2007 goals

The goals set for 2007 were reviewed and discussed. The goals represent major initiatives and ideas to support economic growth for the town. Once established, these initiatives become the foundation of an ongoing effort that the committee works on.

#### Updating EDC website

Lou Bachetti asked David Reed to consider undertaking this project and David agreed that he will look in to it.

#### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Robert Schmidt seconded by Rick Cheney and was unanimously approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 9:03 p. m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ronald L. Elliott, Secretary of the EDC

**Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.**