

Town of Somers

Economic Development Commission  
P.O. Box 308  
Somers, Connecticut 06071  
**EDC Minutes**  
**January 5, 2009**  
Selectmen's Conference Room  
Town Hall

**Call to Order**

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Attendance**

Members present were Louis Bachetti, Ron Elliott, Robert Schmidt, David Reed and Maura Gardiner. Richard Cheney was absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Maura Gardiner and seconded by David Reed that the minutes of the November meeting be approved without change. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

**Correspondence**

None

**Somersville Mill**

David Reed stated that no further advances on the status of the mill were available.

**Somersville Streetscape**

David Reed gave a thorough recap as to the status of the project and the ensuing next steps. A presentation will be given to the selectmen to gain authorization approval for spending.

**2009 Business Directory**

Progress is proceeding on information gathering and soliciting advertisers. It was also proposed and decided that the directory will offer space to those organizations that do business in town but are not physically located in town. Scheduled completion and distribution is now targeted for early spring.

**Way-Finders Signs**

Bob Schmidt updated the group on the status of the project and also provided handouts concerning signage.

**EDC Business Newsletter**

Maura Gardiner stated that the bi annual newsletter has been finalized, sent to the printer for copying and folding and will be sent out to the business community within the next two weeks.

### **Review Somers and area unemployment statistics**

David Reed reviewed recently published unemployment statistics, showing comparisons for the national, state, region and towns. Key statistics for the town consisted of an employment base of 4736 and an unemployed level of 287 individuals. Discussion followed the presentations concerning trends and potential unemployment repercussions on the town. It was decided that David would prepare a packet and deliver and present to the selectmen at their earliest convenience.

### **EDC 2009 goals approval**

A motion made by Maura Gardiner and seconded by Robert Schmidt to accept the 2009 EDC goals as submitted was approved by all in attendance.

### **Other business**

The commission is continuing to work with a potential renter on Scitico Road.

David Reed made a motion which was seconded by Maura Gardiner that a permanent agenda item be added to the EDEC format which would foster discussion on the Land Use Departments activity as each member is now receiving meeting agendas and minutes.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by David Reed, seconded by Robert Schmidt and was approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:25 p. m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ronald L. Elliott, Secretary for the EDC

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