

**Town of Somers
Economic Development Commission
P.O. Box 308
Somers, CT. 06071**

**EDC Minutes
May 3, 2010
Somers Town Hall
Selectmen's Conference Room**

Call to Order

Chairman Lou Bachetti called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m.

Attendance

Members present were Robert Schmidt, David Reed, Ron Elliott, Maura Gardner, Rick Cheney and Lou Bachetti.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by David Reed and seconded by Maura Gardner that the minutes of April 4, 2010 be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

Correspondence

The chairman reviewed an article published by the Journal Inquirer on Saturday May 1 about one of the business in town, STR, who is expanding their plant in Malaysia.

EDC support for probate relocation to Somers

Discussion ensued concerning the imminent relocation of the area probate court to one of the three towns it services, Stafford, Somers and Enfield. It was identified that Somers has an existing facility that can fully accommodate this relocation. A motion was made by David Reed and seconded by Maura Gardner that the chairman and vice chairman draft a Resolution and forward it on to the selectmen stating the fact that the EDC is in full support of this relocation to our town.

Way Finder Signs

After some discussion and to proceed to finalization of this project, it was decided that Rick Cheney would pick-up the two drafts of the sign format from DG Graphics, bring them back to his place of employment, that each member would visit Rick's place of employment and cast their vote on the sign format, tally the results and forward the results to Bob Schmidt within the week. Bob would then notify DG Graphics of the choice where in, they would proceed to production of the signs.

Unemployment Trends

David Reed reviewed with the group a revised set of projections for the month which identified improvements from the results reviewed previously.

Discussion/ recommendation on creation of anti-blight ordinance

As a follow-up to the prior month's discussion on this topic, David Reed drafted an anti-blight ordinance which was a significant expansion to what is currently in existence. After review of this draft, a motion was made by Bob Schmidt, seconded by Ron Elliott that the chairman forwards the draft on to the selectmen for their consideration for adoption of this expanded and more relevant version of this ordinance.

"After Hours" networking discussion

David Reed reviewed with the group an extensive but yet uncompleted list of the businesses in town and their corresponding email address. It has been decided that it is more efficient, less costly and significantly timelier to use the internet as our primary communication vehicle with the business community. The chairman will review with the appropriate parties if funds are available so that we can commission someone to complete the email list. Rick Cheney is in the process of identifying the host of the next scheduled "after hour's business meeting".

EDC activities update

The chairman shared with the commission a Business activity Report that he maintains that identifies new businesses, business relocations, business closings and available storefronts.

Other Business

None

Adjournment

Motion by David Reed and seconded by Maura Gardner to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ronald L Elliott, secretary
Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.