

## **Somers Economic Development Commission Minutes of October 6, 2014**

1. Call to Order: Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Members present: David Reed, Bob Schmidt, Vicki Clark, Richard Cheney, and Sarah Maskill.
2. Mr. Reed provided the minutes of the September 8 meeting, as submitted by Ms. Maskill. Mr. Reed discussed the importance of using the proper verbiage when entering executive session and recording such verbiage in the minutes. A motion to approve the September 8, 2014 minutes was made by Mr. Schmidt and was seconded by Mr. Cheney. The motion passed 5-0.
3. Mr. Reed reviewed correspondence from Paul Jones of the Hampton Inn (interested in a brochure of local attractions), a letter from Mr. Potrikus regarding his absence from the meeting due to being out of state, and a notice regarding a hearing in a FOI matter. Mr. Cheney expressed concern that the attorney's correspondence was dated July 16, but was not received until September, when the date of the hearing had already passed.
4. Mr. Cheney provided a report on the progress of the Somers Business Directory.
5. Ms. Clark provided a report of Social Media outreach. The Somers Shopkeepers have requested publicity on the EDC Facebook page for their fall festival on October 16, 17, and 18. Ms. Clark requested photographs and captions of the Budget Blinds and Dymotek events for inclusion on the EDC Facebook page.
6. Ms. Clark provided an update on potential Business After Hours event locations.
7. Mr. Reed provided a report of the Town's informational meeting on September 18, to discuss the status of the Somersville Mill.
8. Mr. Reed opened a discussion on updating the EDC's Objectives and Goals. He provided a list of targeted businesses to consider in context of the Commission's Objectives and Goals. Mr. Schmidt expressed interest in the improvement of traffic in the center of town. Mr. Reed expressed interest in filling empty storefronts and attracting business to town. Ms. Maskill stated that surrounding Chambers of Commerce may allow a free e-blast to their membership regarding commercial real estate availability in town. Ms. Clark described the lunches/breakfasts offered by surrounding towns to showcase the advantages of moving into those towns.
9. A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Cheney and seconded by Ms. Clark. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Maskill

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