

Town of Lebanon, Connecticut
Economic Development Commission
7:00pm April 25, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes
Lebanon Town Hall

1.0 The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ellen Macauley, Chairperson.

Present were Ellen Macauley, Christopher Warner, John Kolar, Kirsten Westbrook, Christine Warner (Alt), and Jan Grigas (Alt).

Absent was Jim Smith and Linda Reed (Alt). Jan was seated for Jim.

2.0 March Minutes

The March meeting minutes were reviewed and Jan made a motion to accept them as written. Kirsten seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3.0 Farmers Market

There is no update on the farmers market this month.

4.0 LCBA

The LCBA business expo went very well earlier this month. The EDC's support was appreciated.

The LCBA's May meeting on the 15th will feature a seminar by the Northeast CT Economic Alliance targeted towards small business owners. The presentation will cover the types of support and grants available to small businesses through the State of Connecticut. The meeting is at The Log Cabin at 6pm. Chris will submit this info to be posted on the town website and also to the Chronicle for additional exposure.

5.0 Business of the Month Program

The EDC members reviewed the eligible Business of the Month submissions. Kirsten made a motion to accept Harness the Sun as the Lebanon Business of the Month for June. Jan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6.0 Town Village Center

The Cecil Group has completed its study of the Lebanon green and will have its final public information session on April 30th at the Senior Center at 7pm. All EDC members are encouraged to attend and invite others to do the same.

7.0 Tax Incentives for Small Business

Ellen distributed a draft of an example tax abatement program that could be implemented in Lebanon. The members reviewed the document and discussed the practicality of this kind of program in Lebanon. It was determined that it is not currently practical or viable. In Ellen's research she found that a better alternative to attract business in Lebanon would be for the EDC to help small business owners tap into existing programs through the state and possibly help in the grant process.

8.0 Lebanon Industrial Zone Property

In an effort to help develop the towns existing industrial property the EDC could explore options on developing the sewer system through cooperation with the Town of Windham. This would help make the property viable for a new business to open on the property. This will be a continuing effort as there is not currently funding for this project.

Ellen sent a letter to Neil Gilman regarding his Scott Hill property that received approval for a 31,000 square foot industrial use facility. The letter expressed EDC support and assistance regarding his plans for the property and offered a meeting to discuss the plans further.

9.0 Other/Misc.

Taxes Plus in Columbia, CT is looking to move its business to a location with more room and good parking. Ellen reached out to the owner to let him know about existing opportunities in Lebanon that can support his business

10.0 Public Input

There was no public input at this meeting.

11.0 Correspondence

There was no correspondence at this meeting.

12.0 Adjourn

Jan made a motion to adjourn at 8:17pm. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christopher Warner
Secretary EDC