

Town of Lebanon, Connecticut
Economic Development Commission
7:00pm March 23, 2011 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, Kirsten Westbrook, John Kolar, and Chris Warner.

Guests present were Jan Grigas, Charles Westbrook, Steve Ohlund and Patricia Ohlund.

2.0 February Minutes

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

Kirsten made a motion to move Other/Misc. to the next meeting item for discussion. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

3.0 Other/Misc.

The Town of Lebanon will be applying for a \$50,000 state grant to research, support and develop the proposed commercial district on the green. Kirsten made a motion to write a letter of recommendation from the EDC in support of the state grant. John seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kirsten made a motion to move up the vote on the EDC's co sponsorship of the May LCBA meeting program and then to continue the current agenda item. John seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kirsten made a motion to accept EDC co sponsorship of the LCBA's May meeting program. John seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ellen gave an update on the village commercial district progress. We are expecting to present to planning & zoning in the July/August timeframe.

Johnny's Restaurant is a new business in Lebanon that will be opening soon. The owner is looking to get EDC support in promoting his business and advertising its opening. Members discussed the idea and talked about the need for specifics from the restaurant on when they will

be open in addition to needing general criteria to evaluate requests like this from any business in town. Members will discuss the idea at a future meeting.

Patricia Ohlund gave an overview presentation to the EDC on the upcoming May Day on the Green event in Lebanon. The event will have several local businesses and farmers market vendors present and the museums along the green will be open the day of the event.

Chris made a motion to give \$100 to the May Day on the Green Committee with the intent to support the local businesses, museums on the green and farmers market vendors that will be in attendance at the event. John seconded the motion and it passed with three yes votes, zero no votes and one abstention.

Chris presented information he gathered from Mary Dickerson, Economic Development Consultant for the town of Portland, on the business of the month program in Portland, CT. The EDC members decided to invite Mary to the next meeting to learn more about the program to see if we can implement a similar one in the town of Lebanon.

John Kolar left the meeting at 7:55 pm.

4.0 LCBA May meeting program/LCBA April Meeting

Jan read a letter from LCBA President Pat McCarthy to the EDC outlining the support they are looking for with the May meeting and Kirsten then gave her update from the April meeting of the LCBA.

5.0 Windham Region Chamber of Commerce

The EDC members discussed the potential benefits of joining the Windham Chamber of Commerce. Kirsten made a motion to join the Windham Region Chamber of Commerce with payment of membership dues not to exceed \$285. Chris seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6.0 Town Website

Kirsten gave an update on the visitor section of the town website.

7.0 Farmers Market

Chris gave an update on where the farmers market is for the upcoming season.

8.0 Correspondence

The EDC was invited to a Farmland Preservation Celebration on Thursday April 7th from 7-9pm at the Fire Safety Complex. The EDC also received an invitation from law firm Murtha Cullina to a sexual harassment seminar.

9.0 Adjourn

Kirsten made a motion to adjourn at 8:28pm. The motion was seconded by Chris and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

Chris Warner

Secretary EDC