

**Beacon Falls Economic Development Commission
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT 06403**



**BEACON FALLS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Monthly Meeting
July 26, 2021
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order /Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Chair Jack Betkoski called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

Members Present: Jack Betkoski (JB), Dennis Phipps (DEP), David Pokras (DAP) Jeremy Rodorigo (JR)

Members Absent: Brian DeGeorge (BD), Edward Mulvihill (EM), Ed Korzon (EK)

Others Present: Selectman Michael Krenesky (MK), Keith Rosenfeld, Town Planner (KR), Savannah-Nicole Villalba, (SNV)

2. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings

Motion made to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2021, meeting JR/DAP, all ayes. There was no meeting in June.

Shared Town Planner – JB – I am very happy that tonight we have our Town Planners with us who work for the NVCOG. They have worked on numerous projects for the town.

Introductions of Board Members, KR and SNV.

JB – one of the things we have been trying to do for a long time is to come up with a one stop shopping process of how new people can start businesses in town etc. here. KR – there are a lot of solutions to that, but we need to identify a gate keeper and whether he/she can improve process.

JR – we had that briefly with CERC. There has not been much consistency and people do not know who to call. The Commission Members cannot be the person to shepherd people through the process. I think if we are not going to hire a regional person, then we need to hire someone either full or part time. Town around us are booming with business. DAP – In my experience it has always been the Town Planner to assist facilitating. They would also make sure the applicant goes through the Commissions accurately.

JB – Tom Hyde of Waterbury/Naugatuck Development indicated that we may be able to work something out where they would have a person contracted with the Town. MK have you heard anything more on that? MK – I haven't heard anything but the initial conversation. JB – I agree with KR, there still needs to be a contact person. KR – our director is very much interested having the Shared Municipal Planner go into all aspects of planning for the Town.

SNV – we have heard your concerns in other communities as well. Our services are meant to fill in gaps like this. JB – this has been a great conversation and I appreciate you coming, and I will send you some dates/times in the future for us to discuss this further.

3. Comments from the Public

None

4. Correspondence

None

5. Old Business

- Beacon Falls Market – JB – we try and try and try. JR – part of the issue is he wants to retain the building so people do not want to invest any remodel etc. without ownership.
- Berco Tank– JB – there are some issues about all the tanks they have outside. They were talking about putting up a fence. MK – yes, they were asked to hide the tanks that are seen from Lancaster Road.
- TPA Streetscape Project – JR – we are going to be doing a Streetscape clean up this Saturday at 9:00a – 3:00p. We are recruiting community volunteers to cut back the growth from Depot Street, as far south as we can get. Gerry was able to give me a truck and a chipper, but everything will be volunteer hours.
- Other Updates – JB – I have to complement Selectman Krenesky and his committee on the 150th anniversary celebration. It was a beautiful day and the turn out was great, even though it was very hot. Mk – the drone show will be on September 25th. Pent Road will be closed. Lee Nemeth the owner of Kolga has offered his parking lot for parking. You will be able to see if from Church and North Main Street. I am also trying to get the Alpaca Gnomes, but they do have a tentative booking for that day.
- JR – the farmers market is going very well. It is very busy and as long as it is a nice day, some of the vendors are sold out within 2 hours. JR – the seniors got their coupon books as well.

6. New Business

None

7. Grant News /Update/EDC Coordinator Update

Nothing new to report.

8. Payment of Bills

None

9. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 7:44 PM. JR/DEP, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kerry McAndrew
Clerk, EDC*