

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



**BEACON FALLS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Monthly Meeting  
February 22, 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), David Pokras (DAP), Dennis Phipps (DEP), Edward Korzon (EK), Edward Mulvihill (EM)

**Members Absent:** Brian DeGeorge (BD), Jeremy Rodorigo (JR)

**Others Present:** 1 member of the public

**2. Read and Approve Minutes from Previous Meetings**

**Motion made to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2021 meeting DAP/DEP, all ayes.**

**3. Comments from the Public**

None

**4. Correspondence**

JB – clerk informed Board Chair that meetings can be in person for Board Members only if they prefer. JB – I think we should do virtual for at least one more month. Does anyone have an objection? DAP – I am fine with this. DEP – I agree.

**5. Old Business**

- Beacon Falls Market – JB – Unfortunately, we are still trying to fill this space and are open for ideas. I still must follow up with Jerry's in Seymour. Jarjura's is more just produce. It is unfortunate because there is no place in town for people to go. Look at what a homerun Dunkin has been. DAP – what is wrong with a produce only market? We must go out of town for that. JB – I can talk to them. The only issue with Watertown Market was the parking. DEP – wasn't there a mother/daughter team interested but could not get funding? JB – yes. I will follow up with Charlie as well. I also do not know what is going on with Joe Dorsch's, place. He has been closed for a year.
- Berco Tank– JB – if you have driven through the industrial park, you can see their administrative building is up and running. They have done a good job.
- Kolga – JB – I understand this whole process is on hold for now.
- TPA Streetscape Project – JB – We did apply for a State grant, but we did not get the funding. I am sure with the next stimulus package there will be more funding available.
- Naugatuck MOU – JB – this was approved by the BOS and we are happy about this. The NEDC is meeting tonight to approve this and I do not foresee any problems. One thing I will

ask them to assist with is to fill Beacon Falls Market. The Agreement will run from March 1<sup>st</sup> until the end of June and then we will reassess. I am sure Ron will come to the meeting next month. I am optimistic about this agreement. DAP – when would we be meeting with their staff? JB – next month. DAP – I do not think we will be second fiddle at all. I think they will work with us just as they do Naugatuck. JB – Ron is a great guy and I have worked with him for many years and he is excited about this.

- Other Updates – JB – I read in the paper that restaurants were struggling and there will be some stimulus money for that. Antonio's closed for a bit because the owner had COVID. She is doing much better and has recovered, but she was sick. JB – New Harvest is open, I do not know how they are doing, I have not received any feedback from them at all. EM – did we ever figure out what is going on with the dumpsters outside of Franco's Plumbing? JB – we did send the ZEO down there and maybe I will have him stop there again. JB – I submitted the budget, and it is flat. DAP – anyone have information regarding the big housing project proposed in town? They had their first hearing and there was a lot of opposition. There was a lot of improper filings that came to light as result of it and the project could be in serious trouble. I think that project would be a real tax strain.

**6. New Business**

JB - none

**7. Grant News /Update/EDC Coordinator Update**

JB – we will continue working with the COG and other resources for grant information. I think Ron will also be able to provide updates and information for grants as well.

**8. Payment of Bills**

JB – none

**9. Adjournment**

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 7:28 PM. EM/DEP, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry McAndrew  
Clerk, EDC