

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) held its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 in Room 9 of the Notch Road Municipal Center with Chair Bill Anderson presiding. Commission members also present were Alex Ansaldi and Cathy Teller.

I. Call to Order: B. Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. Approval/Modification of Minutes of April 24, 2018 Meeting: A motion was made by C. Teller to approve the minutes as written. A. Ansaldi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment/Introduction of Guests:

A motion was made by C. Teller to move agenda item V. New Business A. Bike Walk Bolton Proposal ahead in the agenda. A. Ansaldi seconded.

Sylvia Ounpoo and Barbara Amodio presented information on making Bolton a bike friendly community (an official designation from the American League of Bicyclists). Trail is ADA accessible and is used not only by bicyclists but also by wheelchairs and strollers. Their group is looking for ways to increase bike ridership and general trail usage and to increase patronage to local businesses. Convenient trail access and kiosks with maps of local businesses are proposed. In 2017, 60,000 + people used the trail through Bolton Notch. There have been intercept studies to see who is using the trails, where they came from and if they are spending money. By September the Bolton trail will be connected to Manchester, potentially increasing ridership in the area. There is the potential for spending at local businesses and restaurants. A kiosk with maps of businesses in town is proposed for the commuter lot and at the top of Exit 5 where a bench is currently located. A bike rack and lockers are proposed for the commuter lot to encourage commuting to Hartford. Port-a-potties were proposed for an area near the commuter lot but funding was not approved by the BOS (\$85.00 per month) and local businesses were reluctant to provide sponsorship. A. Ansaldi mentioned composting toilets (permit necessary? Contact Holly Hood?) as an option and B. Anderson mentioned the possibility of tying into the sewer. C. Teller recapped that as a committee the EDC can take the following actions: Support designation of bike friendly status, contact realtors to have them promote the trail, promote support to BOS (good idea for signs and kiosk, lockers and bike racks), provide financial support for maps and signage (commission vote would be necessary), help with port-a-potty set up and cost, and brainstorm how to get people from the trail to restaurants and businesses. A rolling museum will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 on June 2nd as part of CT Trails Day. "Taste of Bolton" is a possibility as part of the 300 year anniversary of Bolton. Fish Farm and Breakaway Brew Haus have indicated interest in participating.

IV. On-going Business

A. Commission Members' Reports

1. P&Z Activities: Minutes have not been reviewed. More authority has been given to P. Carson to make preliminary approvals. EDC has encouraged this in the past.

2. Quarterly Meetings w/ Land Use Boards: B. Anderson will revisit scheduling meetings with S. Pierog.

3. TCCC EDC subcommittee: No report.

4. Bolton Pond/Freja Park: B. Anderson reported that many people spoke about the pond at the BOS meeting. General consensus is that the pond is an asset and the dam needs to be maintained.

5. Tax Abatement /Incentives: B. Anderson will compose a letter to present at an upcoming BOS meeting proposing publication of tax incentives. This information should be located in several places on the website. Developers will likely share this information with each other.

6. Stop Light @ Quarry Rd. & Route 44: C. Teller will follow up on status

7. Outreach/Trainings: Nothing new to report

B. EDC website

1. Rt. 6 Corridor Study: A. Ansaldi is researching the problem with the links.

C. Branding Project/Welcome Signs

1. Updated sign costs: Funds are safe for sign purchases. Awaiting review by the Facilities and Public Safety sub-committee. Their next meeting is on June 6, 2018.

D. Budget Balance: The fiscal year closes on June 30th. C. Teller will contact J. Stille to transfer funds so they are not lost. EDC lost money last year by not spending. Possibly use funds to rent a port-a-potty or purchase a composting toilet for the trail.

V. New Business

A. Bike Walk Bolton Proposal: Moved ahead to Public Comment

VI. Announcements

A. Next EDC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Notch Road Municipal Center.

VII. Adjournment: A motion was made by C. Teller, seconded by A. Ansaldi, to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Leslie Brand
Board Clerk

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any changes to them.