

Town of Seymour

Economic Development Commission

Minutes
Tuesday – September 2, 2008
Flaherty Room

Members Present: Jon Szuch, Ted Holly, Marietta Sabetta, Rosalie Averill, Joe Cass, Michael H. Horbal, John Criscuolo Director, Nancy Onofrio Recording Secretary.

Members Not-present: Ron Balabon.

Others: None.

- Meeting called in order at 7:02 pm
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Jon Szuch

ITEM # 1 First Selectman Comments.

First Selectman Robert J. Koskelowski not present.

No action taken.

ITEM # 2 Approval of August 5, 2008 Minutes.

Motion to approve minutes with the following change:

Under Item # 7 second paragraph will read as follow:

“Motion to accept proposal from Web Solutions to begin work on Economic Development website in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.00 to be signed by Economic Director John Criscuolo and *reviewed by* Town Counsel George Temple coming out of account# 1001 410-1330-435-310, FY 2007-2008.

Motion: Rosalie Averill Second: Joe Cass

Vote: 5-Yes (R. Averill, M. Sabetta, J. Szuch, T. Holly, J. Cass)

0-No 1-Abstain (M. H. Horbal) 0-Disqualified

1-Not present (R. Balabon)

Motion carries.

ITEM # 3 Open communication with town business owners.

A few business owners were contacted to come and join our meeting to offer the board's help and support. Nobody was able to attend.

Formal invitations will go out this month and further solicitation will take place to encourage the business owners to seek our support.

ITEM # 4 Open communication with representatives of DOT

Communication was initiated with representatives of DOT. They were extended an invitation over the phone. For next month a formal written invitation will be sent out to maintain a record. The board is hopeful someone will attend the next meeting to discuss how we can creatively communicate and collaborate to improve the esthetics of the roads in town.

ITEM # 5 ED Director Report See Attached Document.

Plus:

- The downtown merchant association received the \$650 contribution. The Billboard was put up this week. It has met and exceeded everyone's expectations. Everyone is happy to see the town coming together to increase our visibility.

ITEM # 6 Finalize 2008 Questionnaire (updated version)

1. What do you think of the availability of the Public Transportation system in Seymour?
 - a. Not enough
 - b. Just about right
2. Regarding the above question which of the following services do you think needs improvement? (circle all that apply)
 - a. Valley Transit District
 - b. CT Transit Bus
 - c. Metro North train schedule
 - d. Commuter parking
3. What do you think of the Town of Seymour's present recreational facilities?
 - a. Not enough
 - b. Just about right
4. In regard to question #3 what town owned and operated recreational facilities would you like to have? (circle all that apply)
 - a. Public swimming pool
 - b. Public tennis courts

- c. Public basketball courts
- d. Public dog park
- e. Public walking track
- 5. In regard to question #4 would you support an increase in taxes to pay for additional recreational services?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 6. Should Seymour develop more Commercial and Retail Zones?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 7. Are you in favor of more Commercial and Retail development along Routes 8, 34, and 67? (please circle all that apply)

Route- 8	Yes	No
34	Yes	No
67	Yes	No

- 8. Which distance do you feel most comfortable in traveling from your home for services in each direction?
 - a. 4-8 miles
 - b. 9-16 miles
 - c. 17 miles and beyond
- 9. What types of retail stores would you like to see locate to Seymour? (circle all that apply)
 - a. Clothing
 - b. Sports
 - c. Arts & crafts/Books
 - d. Electronics
 - e. Home improvement center
 - f. Family style restaurants
 - g. Grocery
 - i. New larger modern post office
- 10. Do you think that downtown Seymour requires Aesthetic Codes for a more uniformed themes?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 11. Are you concerned about Seymour's long term ability to financially fund itself and remain solvent?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 12. Please state briefly your thoughts and comments about Seymour. Keep comments to 3 lines only and pertaining to economic development and not personal or personnel issues.

For more extensive comments please e-mail: Nancy Onofrio at nonofrio@seymourct.org

Motion to approve 2008 Questionnaire with discussed changes.

Motion: Rosalie Averill Second: Ted Holly

Vote: 6-Yes (R. Averill, M. Sabetta, J. Szuch, T. Holly, M. H. Horbal , J. Cass) 0-No 0-Abstain 0-Disqualified

1-Not present (R. Balabon)

Motion carries.

ITEM # 7 Brainstorm on EDC website.

The Board is confident the EDD can address all aspects involved with the process of developing a website.

ITEM # 8 Chairman Report.

Chairman Jon Szuch had no further comments.

ITEM # 9 Public Comment.

No public Comment.

ITEM # 10 Correspondence

No Correspondence.

ITEM # 11 Other Business.

No other Business.

ITEM # 12 Adjournment.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:30pm.

Motion: Ted Holly

Second: Joe Cass

Vote: 6-Yes (Jon Szuch, Rosalie Averill, Michael H. Horbal, Ted Holly, Joe Cass, Marietta Sabetta) 0-No 0-Abstain

0-Disqualified 1-Not Present (Ron Balabon)

Motion Carries.