

Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 7/10/18  
TIME: 4:00 pm  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

In Attendance:

Christine Aliman, Chris Bowen, Claudia Thomas, Robert Van Egghen, Pat Lombardi and Bob Findley

Item #1 – Meeting called to order by Chairwoman C.Aliman at 6:30pm

Item # 2 – Pledge of Allegiance led by C.Aliman

Item # 3-5 – Discussed role of EDC with members of Commission. What is our vision and role for EDC. EDC will work to bring in people from surrounding towns in the Valley and look for ideas and on how to work with the Town in building businesses in Seymour. C.Aliman will begin to schedule fellow EDD/Volunteers for the upcoming months: Shelia O'Malley, Lynn Diogiovani, Bill Purcell etc. Will also discuss with current Directors and Commissioners the benefits of becoming a corporation. Looking for information that can assist the commission in helping to put together some sort of job description that can later be presented to the First Selectman in addition to their current job description.

The commission would like to get a baseline of what businesses are currently in Seymour and what are the available properties in town; C. Thomas was going to work on beginning to gather business list. Discussion was held to review the 10 Year Strategic Plan – no final decision was made on that. Strand Theater was featured in CT Magazine; owner John Fonatto Jr. was interviewed. EDC was unaware of the interview and other stores in the Downtown Main Street area were not engaged in the interview process. This brought up social media like the City of Ansonia uses – what and are there any resources available to assist in this process.

Item #6 – Economic Development Director – The Commission feels that this is not something that should be rushed. As a Commission we want to review the job description – C. Aliman will request a copy from First Selectman's Office. Need to see what resources are available to the Town for this position. It was discussed possibly adding grant writing and Town Planning. This will be discussed again at future EDC meetings

Item #7 – Valley Realtor Day 6/5/2018– Town of Seymour was a sponsor of the event and Seymour EDC had the opportunity to attend the event located in Tri Town Plaza. Discussed creating a flyer to discuss the benefits of Seymour which addressed many items: Highway access, commercial property, education pipeline, active job placement, hospital access, train station and proximity to local towns. Special Meeting scheduled for 5/21/2018 to discuss further details.

Chairwoman Aliman made a motion to discuss public comments.

Karen Robinson – Seymour Resident is looking to participate in Seymour, CT and was interested in attending a meeting to see what the EDC does.

Dan McGinnis – Seymour Resident – asking as to why there is so many vacant/empty land in the town.

A motion to adjourn was made by R. Van Egghen; seconded by P. Lombardi and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christine Aliman