

TOWN OF SALEM, CT.

Economic Development Commission

Regular Meeting, October 19, 2015, 7:30 p.m. Salem Office Building, Room 2

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm by meeting chair Frank Sroka.

Members present:

Frank Sroka

Ken Bondi

Wendy Mikolinski

Members not present:

Andy Lightner

Ada Vaill

Visitors:

Larry Stevens

Zach Adams

1. Reading of Agenda – chairperson

Frank Sroka presented agenda. No changes to agenda presented.

Motion: Frank Sroka moved to modify September 2105 Minutes by eliminating the paragraph relating to Sid's Autoparts. Seconded by Ken Bondi. Unanimously approved.

Motion: Ken Bondi moved to approve the modified Minutes for 09/21/2015 meeting. Seconded by Frank Sroka. Unanimously approved.

2. Communications

None

3. Public Comment

Zach Adams presented his business plan for Fox Farm Brewery; a proposed microbrewery to be located at 62 Music Vale Road in Salem. Zach outlined the proposed nature of the business, the land use, and the current status of the applications processes.

Reports

None

4. Old Business

- a. EDC Table at the October 31 Apple Festival. Frank Sroka stated he has received permission for the EDC to set up a table at the Apple Festival Event. Wendy Mikolinski will represent the EDC at the event. EDC brochures will be handed out and community members will be asked their opinion on a number of EDC related topics. Information gathered will be discussed at the next EDC meeting.
- b. Our Town Salem Business Information seeking ad / article. Frank Sroka has reviewed the proposed article to be placed in Our Town Salem; this article will be presented to EDC members and First Selectman Kevin Lyden for final approval prior to placing the ad in the publication. Wendy Mikolinski suggested using EDC funds as a reward to incentivize Salem Businesses' participation. The proposed reward would be a ½ page or full page advertisement in a future addition of Our Town Salem paid for by EDC funds. The winner would be chosen by a blind raffle. The cost of this advertisement will be discussed at the next EDC meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Potential uses for town-owned land. EDC chair Frank Sroka stated he has been in preliminary discussion with Kevin Lyden and Bob Ross regarding town-owned land availability and use allowances / restrictions. Kevin will ask Town Planner Rich Serra to work actively with the EDC to produce a formal list of available space.
- b. Frank Sroka, Ken Bondi and Wendy Mikolinski discussed the Fox Farm Brewery project including the use of "Special Agriculture Zoning" for the proposed business (this is an overlay zone). Each member agreed the project would benefit the economic climate in Salem and simultaneously allow for repurposing of farm land without compromise to the integrity of the land.

Motion: Ken Bondi proposed that the EDC officially support the Fox Farm Brewery Project. Seconded by Wendy Mikolinski. Unanimously approved.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16, at 7:30 p.m. in Salem Town Hall, Room 2.

Meeting Adjourned 9:01 p.m.

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UNAPPROVED

