

Town of Salem
Economic Development Commission

Minutes for regular meeting September 18, 2017

Meeting called to order 7:34PM

Members present:

Frank Sroka (Chair)	Andy Lightner
Elbert Burr	Adam Scott {alt}
Paul Robillard	James Bee (alt)

Approved of Minutes: Motion by Adam Jones, second by James Bee to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2017 meeting. No meeting was scheduled for August.

Public Comment: None

EDC Membership Resignation: Frank Sroka reported that Wendy Mikolinski has resigned as a member of the EDC to attend to responsibilities of business and family. Her direct mail survey project is to be picked up by Paul Robillard. Support for the Face book portion of Wendy's work will be picked up by Andy Lightner. Motion by Andy and seconded by James to accept the resignation of Wendy Mikolinski with regrets and thanks for her service to EDC. Carried unanimously. Our senior (age restricted) housing project is still in process and will be moved along further this fall. Various aspects supporting Senior housing have been approved by P & Z through their age restricted housing regulations.

New Business: Elbert Burr will assume the position of secretary and Vice Chairman of the commission. Key to the evening was a group discussion for the EDC to develop a Five Year Plan. Andy Lightner volunteered to spearhead the project. Some early suggestions were made during discussion of this project.

- 1 Develop a mission statement for the five year plan.
- 2 Nurture and support Salem businesses
- 3 Recruit new businesses and develop new strategies to support this effort.
- 4 Review past town-wide survey conducted by P & Z in support of the current P & Z 10 year Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).
- 5 Develop background reasons why businesses left Salem to the extent possible.
- 6 Develop more complete knowledge on home occupation businesses vs. store front establishments.
- 7 Review types of businesses currently working successfully in Salem and why they work.
8. Involve Salem Town Planner Richard Serra in development of this plan and specific strategies that result from it.

Motion by Paul Robillard, seconded by Andy Lightner, to schedule a special meeting of EDC on Tuesday, Oct 3 2017 for the purpose of beginning development of the above Five Year Plan.

Next Regular Meeting Date: Oct 16, 2017.

Motion to adjourn by Elby Burr, second by Paul Robillard. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elbert Burr, Secretary and Vice-Chair, Salem Economic Development Commission

Cc: Frank Sroka, Chair