

Town of Salem
Economic Development Commission
Minutes from regular meeting August ,20, 2018

1. Meeting called to order 7:35 PM

Members present:

Frank Sroka (Chair) Andy Lightner
Elbert Burr Adam Scott (Absent)
Paul Robillard (Absent) James Bee (Absent)

Selectman Representative Absent.

New Member: Amie R. Hoinsky (alt) Absent

2. Approval of minutes: June 18, 2018, minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

3. Communications: None

4. Public comment. @ P & Z Liaison. Elby
No new zoning changes, additions, comments.

5. Old Business: Further discussion was held on the Salem Town Center property. The First Selectman informed the commission that a new white fence has been installed along the state road boundary across the front lawn of the Salem Town Center. He also indicated that additional items on the Town's list of property cleanups and compliance issues is under way. These items pertain to "temporary" signage, trash management, grass cutting and uniform signage which can be read clearly on the Center's billboard. These items are a work in progress items and will take some time to complete.

The EDC members conducted personal interviews of the current business owners. The results from these interviews will be discussed at a future meeting. It was felt that personal interviews with each of the business owners could help identify areas that might need special attention from their perspective. It would also demonstrate that the town was interested and supportive of their efforts to conduct business in Salem.

New Business: The committee met with a new Salem business owner (Barry Ford of Red House Cultural Arts Center on Darling Road, co-owned with his wife Kim) to discuss the possible design and printing of the EDC's business directory which has been in the works for over a year (Barry is also the owner of Ford Folios and has published many directories and other booklets and publicity materials). The discussion with them was very enlightening, and several specific ideas were discussed. Some initial conclusions indicated we should stay with the booklet style format with business ads and try to publish before the end of this year. Mailing the finished booklet to the town could be combined with the Bicentennial Booklet which is scheduled for early 2019 release. All felt a bid was necessary for producing the booklet.

7. Next Meeting: Monday, September 17th, 2018 at 7:30PM in Room 2, Salem Town Hall.

8. Adjourned: 9:00 PM.