



Town of New Fairfield
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, September 18, 2023



Present: James Kloos
Greg Manning
Michael Kiviat
Kathleen DiTullio
Myke Furhman

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kloos, Vice Chair at 7:01 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Public Comment & Participation

There was none.

Approve Minutes of August 21, 2023

Mr. Kloos moved to approve the minutes of August 21, 2023 as presented, seconded by Ms. DiTullio and passed unanimously.

Aye: Kloos, Kiviat, Manning, DiTullio, Furhman

Correspondence & Announcements

Mr. Manning said the Planning Commission reached out to the Economic Development Committee about feedback they might want to add for the Plan of Conservation and Development. There will be upcoming meetings in October.

OLD BUSINESS

ARPA Funding Update/Small Business Grants

Mr. Kloos said he sent out an email saying this is the last call for acceptance of the ARPA small business applications. He also spoke to people at the business owners happy hour.

Mr. Manning thanked Mr. Kloos for sending the email and said there are two new applications to review.

EDC Sponsored Activities

I. Fall Home Expo

Ms. DiTullio sent around a list of potential vendors so everyone could reach out to businesses they might know. Mr. Furhman said he would reach out to the company that redid his kitchen and to the mason. Mr. Manning said he would reach out to the septic companies and attorneys. Mr. Kiviat agreed to call the landscapers.

Mr. Manning said everyone needs to make calls so that the turnout of vendors is decent. Mr. Kloos said he would send an email about the home show. Ms. DiTullio said the Facebook ads have been running and there will be two ads in the Town Tribune.

Mr. Furhman asked if the Commission would open the home show up to vendors who are not located in Town but do work in town. Ms. DiTullio felt as long as they were not competitors of a local business that would be okay.

Mr. Kloos agreed to reach out to painters.

II. Holiday Carol Sing/Pop Up Shop

Mr. Furhman suggested tabling this to focus on the home show.

III. Business Owner Happy Hour

Mr. Kloos said the event was hosted by Icahn's Sports Bar. Mr. Manning said the event was not considered a success since only 7 businesses were there. He suggested unless they can draw at least 15 they should put their efforts elsewhere.

Mr. Furhman said the golf simulator business is all set to host whenever they decide to do the next happy hour.

Mr. Manning said it was nice to see that the bar was full and the restaurant had a decent turnout as well.

EDC Commission Participation in upcoming New Fairfield Events

Mr. Kloos said New Fairfield Day was postponed to October 14th due to inclement weather. Mr. Manning said he has the cornhole games and would put an EDC logo sticker on them so people are aware EDC is the sponsor.

Ms. DiTullio said the Trick or Treat event is October 27th from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

She also asked if the EDC wanted to decorate the welcome signs for the fall season.

Mr. Furhman moved to authorize up to \$150 to spend on fall decorations for the welcome to New Fairfield signs, seconded by Ms. DiTullio and passed unanimously.

Aye: Kloos, Kiviat, Manning, DiTullio, Furhman

NEW BUSINESS

New and Prospective Businesses

Mr. Kloos said he went to the Legacy Dance open house.

Mr. Kiviat said he spoke with the owner of Twisters and they want to do a ribbon cutting or have a grand opening.

Change of October meeting date due to conflict with commissioners

Mr. Furhman said three of the commissioners will not be available for the October scheduled meeting so asked to change the date.

Mr. Furhman moved to change the date of the October EDC meeting to October 18th at 7 pm, seconded by Mr. Manning and passed unanimously.

Aye: Kloos, Kiviat, Manning, DiTullio, Furhman

Closing Public Comment

Adjournment

Mr. Kloos moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm, seconded by Ms. DiTullio and passed unanimously.

Aye: Kloos, Kiviat, Manning, DiTullio, Furhman

Minutes recorded by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen R. Badd".

Recording Secretary

Received by email on 09/20/2023 @ 2:04 p.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield