

Andover Economic Development Commission

Zoom Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday June 20th, 2022 5:30PM

- I. Call to order at 5:36PM Cathy Palazzi, Patrick Dougherty, Elaine Buchardt, Catherine Magaldi-Lewis(5:50)
- II. Public Speak - none
- III. Add/Delete
- IV. Minutes from last – Cathy moved to approve minutes from May 3rd, 2022, Patrick seconded. All approved.
- V. Tolland County Chamber of Commerce report - Elaine
New website with Town calendars – TCCC set up Andover as their first town calendar on their town section of their website. Missy Smith used events sent to her by Cathy and Catherine.

Farmers Market – Elaine – First two Farmers Markets have been well attended. Weather continues to be iffy with potential rain every Wednesday we have the market. Next market is August 3rd, 4-7.
- VI. Social media communication - Who is doing what?
Andover is Open for business – Elaine continues to send an Andover is Open For Business post to the Andover Economic Development Commission Facebook web page whenever an Andover business sends a post on their page.
- VII. Projects:
Board communications – All – Patrick will keep track of what is going on with the P&Z Commission and report back to us.
Business Directory/Business mapping(ongoing) – Elaine added a business to the directory- Andover Restoration with Jeff Ballard. Carpentry.
Sustainable Connecticut – Cathy, Elaine. Cathy said the EDC efforts were awarded their points, but there are a few other areas that need work to get the rest of the points needed for certification. Once those are straightened out, we may be certified in August.
UConn student help – Catherine – Catherine went with Professor Parks all over town for her to get an idea of what we have to work with. She will let us know if we need any more information for the UConn students to begin their planning project. Elaine has a flash drive with files and maps on it that might be helpful.
Welcome signs –Elaine – if we only have one. Elaine hasn't heard a word from the Community Fund about whether we will be funded for one sign (\$4500). We will have discussions about whether we only need one really nice sign over by the "dog pound" that has some kind of stone work. If only one sign, we should do a redesign and discuss with other sign companies. Cathy says the community fund has made their decision, but nothing has been said to Elaine. We may have to request funding from the town again for 2023-2024.

VIII. Businesses coming to town – combined meeting with P&Z and Town Administrator. We had a meeting on June 1st at 1:30 with Jed Larsen from P&Z and Eric Anderson, Town Administrator and the EDC (Catherine, Cathy and Elaine). We discussed how we could find out from each other what kind of business activity is going on in town. Jed had mentioned that he looks at all the legal notices for Andover in the News Bulletin to see what requests for zoning changes, variances, etc. are in the works.

Eric will resend us his “goals for the town” as guidance of what he would like worked on. He had sent the EDC this last year, but it needs to be updated.

The POCD, LADA files, DOT files, Long Term Planning Committee files and maps from LADA are all on the town website – AndoverCT.org – so anyone can look at them.

There is also the Affordable Housing plan created by a contracting planner for the P&Z on the website. Elaine has a flash drive with many of the files. She will try to add the POCD and Affordable housing plan on that drive.

Just in further discussion it was mentioned that there is a potential winery being looked at for the triangular slice of land at the corner of Route 87 and route 6 running mainly along route 6. Potential business to support the rail trail. This is the type of information we are looking for to get an idea of future economic development.

The group saw the value in having these combined discussions on occasion and will be having another discussion on August 3rd at 2:00PM.

IX. Branding –More ideas (tabled)

X. Assignments: Catherine and Cathy continue to send Melissa(Missy) Smith from the TCCC to let her know about town events coming up in Andover so she can add them to the Calendar. Patrick to keep watch on P&Z activities to determine if new business expressing interest. Elaine to continue to work on Facebook and the Andover Directory. Cathy continuing to work with Sustainable CT.

XI. Public Speak

XII. Adjournment – Next meeting August 18th, 2022 5:30PM The July meeting is canceled. Catherine to let us know if we need to meet earlier than August to discuss the UCONN planning project.