

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Andover Economic Development Commission (EDC)**  
**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**Andover Town Hall**

**Call to Order:**

Elaine Buchardt called the meeting to order at 7:10PM

**Present:** Elaine Buchardt, Patrick Dougherty, Tim Gilmore

**Absent:** Jeanne Person

**Public Speak:** none

**Minutes:** none printed, put off for next month

**Liaison Reports:** no liaison

**Tolland County Chamber of Commerce:** Elaine attended to TCCC EDC meeting on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. Lots of development going on in Vernon, Ellington and Tolland. Elaine mentioned that we will soon have a planner and town administrator and will hopefully get some new projects to work with them on.

**Planning and Zoning:**

We talked about the CNG gas fusion station and that they withdrew their application. Most likely they will not reapply.

We discussed the changing of R40(1 acre zoning) to R80(2 acre zoning) proposed by new planner Bill Warner. There is a concern that once development does pick up there will be more subdivisions proposed using 1 acre zoning if the zoning regs allow for it. There were three areas in town that were designated for dense housing. Since we have never experienced that as a town, it's hard to think that we would ever have that problem. It was theorized that we could have a problem of overdevelopment if we had sewers coming down route 6. We do think that sewers are necessary for businesses to be built along route 6 since it runs along the Hop River. As an EDC we may consider promoting getting sewers along route 6.

Patrick also told us that zoning is working on square footage minimum for houses in town. Proposing 900 square feet be the minimum.

**Farmers Market News:** The Holiday Fair that was supposed to be Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, was canceled due to snow. The Winter Market is starting Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>. Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> and Feb 25<sup>th</sup> are the other three scheduled.

**Current Business:** We will continue to discuss zoning with Patrick in hopes of developing a comprehensive guide to building and business in Andover.

**New Business:** The vote on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> resulted in the town asking for a town administrator. We look forward to having someone to work with for new development projects.

Tim brought up the need for signs on route 6 and we agreed to look into how to get that done as an EDC initiative. Tim proposed a design of a sign with a little roof that looked like the metal roof on the bridge with a possible picture of the bridge. Wooden signs that say Welcome to Andover. Elaine said we should have something on the sign mentioning it was part of the Hop River Corridor as proposed by the LADA plan from a few years ago. We also discussed the need to do official Request for Proposals(RFP's) when working with town money as well as creating CIP requests for anything over \$3000.

Elaine, prior to this meeting, had mentioned to the CIP that she would like to see a new public works building built by the transfer station and have the old one torn down to make room for a tavern by the river. There will be issues with the chemicals in the soil from the paper mill business previously housed there.

**Members:** No one has volunteered to be on the EDC after several ads in the News Bulletin. The ad will remain.

**Assignments:**

Elaine to check with the other towns to see if they have been looking into signs for their towns and if they have found any grants for signs. She will talk to the first selectman to find out how to put out RFP's. Tim will work on the design concepts and check out prices. Patrick will look into the possibility of donors to pay for the signs. This will be on next month's agenda.

**Next Meeting:** Next regular meeting is February 8th.

**Adjournment:** EDC adjourned at 9:15PM

Respectfully submitted by: Elaine Buchardt

