

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
April 9, 2019

PRESENT: Chairman John Allen, Commissioners Kirk Carr, Richard Juel, John Hussaini, Hank Teskey and Andrea Reu

Also present: Bob Werner, Sadie Colcord and Tim Guerra

Guests: Doug Dobriner, Joanne Wiley

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

- A motion was made by J. Hussaini, seconded by R. Juel to approve the minutes of March 12, 2019 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Business Outreach:

Hospitality/ Shuttle/ 9 Town Transit Discussion:

- Chamber of Commerce Director Paul Orsini and EDC members met with Mr. Cummerford owner of the 9 Town Transit with the following outcome:
 - They will supply a free shuttle bus and the ride would be free
 - 8 weeks in July and August – 25 hours a week
 - Hours: Friday 5 pm to 10 pm, Saturday 11 am to 10 pm, Sunday 11 am to 8 pm
 - Costs: \$60/hour which includes the driver and gas
 - Another cost: \$10,000 for a reusable wrap to decorate the bus – a sign on side (Clinton Trolley) and ads
 - Would include 6 to 8 stops on a half hour schedule – those to include Clinton Crossings, Shanks, Post Office Square, Railroad Station to Docs – to name a few
 - Reach out to businesses to donate to the wrap at a cost of \$1,200 to \$2,000

Manufacturing Group Update:

- The initial 9 objectives are down to two main objectives:
 - Workforce – develop, train existing employees, recruit new
 - Incentives – Want incentives from the town, state and federal governments
- B. Werner met with managing director, strategic investments, CT Innovations and Director of DECD
 - Director of DECD offered to devote one person to the six original Clinton businesses to work out solutions and to create a plan of needs to be provided by DECD
- B. Werner met with Paul Critchley to discuss Eversource Prime program and coordinating two free Lean events. Typically, could cost \$10,000/event
- B. Werner spoke with S. Menzo, Wallingford superintendent and discussed his benchmark school system program, an apprenticeship program for 16-year-old students
 - Menzo will present this program to the Clinton superintendent if the Clinton BoE and businesses are committed
- B. Werner met with Workforce Alliance (Steve Johnson) and CT Department of Labor (Janice Albert) who both offered to help develop potential employees and set up a meeting to discuss the original six Clinton businesses' needs
 - Workforce Alliance Graduation (second class) is scheduled for April 16, 2019 and the six Clinton businesses are invited to attend the job fair to introduce Clinton Manufacturing and interview the graduating students
- The next meeting of the Manufacturing Group will be held at the Tower Labs

30 Old Post Realty Status Update:

- They retained Pinnacle Indoor Sports to determine if this location is viable for this type of development
- Their final report is expected in three weeks; however, their preliminary report looks favorable
- Discussed it as a year-round sports/recreational destination, the types of uses (indoor hockey, soccer, pro shops, food vendors and lessons to name a few), outside fields and used by local schools
- Discussed who would actually run the business (Pinnacle or contract to company specializing in sports complexes, when ground would be broken and what position 30 Old Post Realty would have (landlord)
- EDC questioned how they could help:
 - When final plans are ready assist to ensure everything goes smoothly
 - Investigate tax incentives or breaks

Clinton Crossings Advertising:

- There is \$1,700 remaining in the 2018-2019 EDC budget
- A motion was made by A. Reu, seconded by H. Teskey to put the Memorial Day standee up at Clinton Crossings for a cost of \$1,000. The motion carried unanimously.
- There is an outstanding bill of \$700 to Technique Printers for the quarterly flyers
 - A motion was made by K. Carr, seconded by H. Teskey to pay \$700 to Technique Printers for the printing of the quarterly flyers
 - Discussion ensued noting:
 - The benefit we get from these flyers is not worth the expense
 - Need to promote Clinton other ways
 - Motion carried with a vote of 5 in favor and 1 opposed (A. Reu).

New Business:

- Need to find a way to market the town, a suggestion was to include marketing in the trolley

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk