

MINUTES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
April 12, 2022

PRESENT: Chairman John Allen, Commissioners Robert Werner, John Hussaini, Hank Teskey, Phil Sengle and John May (arrived at 6:53 p.m.)

Also present: Robert Murdock and Tom Hollinger

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

P. Sengle was seated for Commissioner Richard Juel

All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of March 8, 2022:

- A motion was made by P. Sengle, seconded by J. Hussaini to approve the minutes of March 8, 2022 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

CMC and Advanced Manufacturing Partnership and Job Fair: (R. Werner's report is attached with the following comments highlighted)

- The Clinton manufacturers are extremely busy
- They continue to be challenged with finding skilled workers and/or individuals who want to work
  - State agencies are working with them to find and train workers
  - Large CT manufacturers and companies in other states are incentivizing workers to work for them
- Morgan School is becoming a model for the state with their accredited engineering and manufacturing classes
  - An Open House, for Clinton residents, will be held in May to tour the Advanced Manufacturing Center
- The Morgan School will enter the Electrathon Race to be held at Lime Rock in May
- The Clinton Chamber of Commerce will host a Job Fair at the Clinton Town Hall on May 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Some Clinton manufacturers will attend, the remainder will provide literature
- An article about the Clinton Manufacturing Coalition will be included in the next Clinton Events magazine

ARPA Economic Development Tourism/ Cultural Marketing:

- The Rivercog region will be the main area to be branded
  - The 17 municipalities will then incorporate their individual points of interest, events and attractions under the Rivercog brand

Clinton Videography Project Status:

- Tom Foster continues to do the voice over for all Morgan sporting events
  - He has also interviewed some individuals, such as Town Manager Kilduff, Town Council Chairman Aniskovich and Police Chief DeMaio
  - The "Talk of the Town" and "Talk of Sports" will become a regular show on public access TV and will be included on the Town's website
  - Discussed the involvement and assistance of the Valley Shore Community Television as well as the Morgan students

2022/2023 Budget Status:

- There were no changes made to the Economic Development Commission's budget submittal
- The budget goes to referendum on May 11<sup>th</sup>

Town Wayfinding Signs:

- The Wayfinding signs on Main at Grove and Main at Commerce status were discussed. It was relayed that the Town Council was informed at the April 6, 2022 meeting, that nothing more was needed to proceed. Now awaiting formal approval from the Town Manager.”

Connecticut Open House Day:

- R. Murdock discussed the “Connecticut Open House Day”, an annual event held to inspire Connecticut residents to learn about all the experiences in their town and other CT towns.
  - He will provide more details and dates at the next meeting

International Food and Beer Garden:

- This event will be held on July 8, 2022 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. behind the Town Hall

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott  
Clerk

CMC/Advanced Manufacturing Partnership

Refresh: We have two process streams

- **Clinton Manufacturing Coalition (CMC):** Formed in 2018

Purpose: Creating a business environment in Clinton, and Connecticut that is conducive to retaining and growing manufacturing - Learn, Grow, Work, Live in Clinton.

- **Advanced Manufacturing Partnership (CMC & Clinton Schools):** Formed in 2019

Purpose: Assure every student is aware of advanced manufacturing opportunities that they may not have previously considered or bypassed for a four-year college experience and graduates with desirable skill sets and fundamental business ethics (single most important), being sought by advanced manufacturers.

One of CMC Goals - Presence at local high school. Driven by crisis that still exist - Workforce access/availability.

- April 29: BW and Marco met with Workforce Alliance Bill Villano, President and Steve Johnson and discussed a number of opportunities including, getting a night school Mfg./Eng program implemented. Very productive meeting.

Also discussed our involvement with the South Central Manufacturing Collaborative. The Workforce Alliance and Middlesex Chamber of Commerce managing. It's a subset of the Governor's Workforce Council. There is a tsunami of money flowing from Washington and we want to extract as much as we can.

- April 30: Core team Advanced Manufacturing Partnership meeting.

Reviewed actions, revised as needed (mostly driven as a result of COVID) and set some go forward plans. Our first major event will be an open house for the Advanced Manufacturing Center at the high school. Even though there is a lot of attention and interest from Hartford, we are going to keep it local and focused on students, parents, community.

- Electrathon: On track for students to compete at Lime Rock in May. Bausch made a significant contribution to their project.

- Tom Foster: Reached out to Tom

Potential to document with the Video Production team from HS, the students building the Electrathon and the race at Lime Rock on May 20.

Document with the Video Production team from HS, the open house event for the Advanced Manufacturing Lab at the HS.