

Economic and Community Development Commission
Minutes: 12/11/19

Meeting called to order at 6 :30 p.m. at the Chaplin Town Hall

Members Present: Rene Schein, Leslie Ricklin, Ann Chuk, Ann Lewis

Guests: Amy Kalisher, Ginny Walton

Motion to approve minutes of last meeting: All approved.

Discussion:

1. Bill Rose sent Leslie Ricklin a memo about the Regional Tourism Committee and how they often do not have enough representatives from the smaller towns in our area.

- Leslie will find out where and when they meet.
- Put something on our facebook pages, town website to see if there is any one comes forward to volunteer.
- This committee cannot send a representative at this time, unless we alternate people who go.

2. Rene sent commission info on “Recycling for schools” for us to look at.

3. Update on Planet Aide boxes in front of daycare on RT 6.

- Ann C. spoke with Daycare director, who will speak with owner or building, to see if Planet Aide boxes can be switched there instead of Kiducation, based on research that Ann Lewis presented last month.
- Ann C,. will follow up with them again this month.

3. Sustainable CT discussion:

- Ginny Walton, from Chaplin, who works in Mansfield, came tonight to assist us in understanding and using the Sustainable CT website.
- Ginny showed us where there is a Per Capita Waste form on the Sustainable site that is a good resource to use for our recycling efforts.
- Ginny also suggested for us to keep writing things down on our page in the website to keep track of things that we are doing.
- The CERC Town Profiles could be used as Ginny suggested to get data about our town, especially when we are trying to figure out the equity piece of Sustainable CT.
- Ginny suggested requesting an “equity” coach as they did in Mansfield, would be valuable to our team
- .Requesting an intern from Sustainable CT would be something to talk with Jessica about when she comes next month.

4. Sense of a “community place” was discussed. .. a place where people can come together, not just for seniors.

- A discussion ensued re: senior center, and whether we can also have a community center there for all to community gather.
- use of senior center as a senior center/community center using at different times. Amy K. suggested a monthly pot luck or, 4 times a year pot luck which could be

held there, and people didn't have to be seniors, just members of our community. It also could be a "bring your own utensils, plates, napkins etc".. so it can be an example of "low garbage" event, - a way to help with recycling and less trash. We all thought this was a wonderful idea, and would also fit in with the SustainableCT efforts.

- Rene will find out about use of the senior/community building.
- Schools can also help and become involved with these pot lucks!
- Amy K. will see if Elena Davis, who was the organizer of the well attended pot luck a few months ago, would be interested in helping.
- Amy will try to reach out to her on FaceBook. We all seemed quite excited about this idea and will help Amy in any way we can to get it started!

5. Rene suggested that commission look at the website for Community Foundation at Eastern CT. They have a section on grants. Possible grant ideas: better heating in the gym/community center room, and planting more trees for the bicentennial celebration and to sustaining our lovely town of Chaplin.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Next meeting JAN 8th 2020... All commissions and public would be invited to attend.

Agenda: info about Sustainable CT, and why it is important for Chaplin.

Invite: PTO's Principals, Superintendent, Town Selectmen, crews, Fire Dept, Rec Commission, P and Z, Finance Bd, Conservation, Library Bd, .. Think of how to get word out.... Have food!

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Chuk