

Minutes for Economic and Community Development Committee

Chaplin Town Hall, Thursday, October 9, 2019

**Meeting called to order** by Irene Schein, Chair at 6:30 pm

**Appointed temporary secretary:** Virginia Siege

**Members present** also included: Virginia Siege, Ann Chuk, Ann Lewis and Leslie Ricklin. Absent Josh Walmsley and William Rose IV; Michael Maggs, due to work commitments has resigned, leaving a vacancy to be filled and one alternate position

**Guests** included Jeff Bizzarro from the Vet Base Camp and Amy Kalisher who is a graphic designer and baker were warmly welcomed by Irene.

Approval of minutes of September 11, 2019: Leslie moved to approve the minutes, Ann seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Member reports:

Virginia Siege will contact Kyle Gregoire, Donor and Community Relations Manager of the Last Green Valley Legacy Society whom Irene recently met at workshop to find out about possible future grants and to engage more with this valuable environmental and cultural asset.

Ann C is working together with Leslie on a brochure "Welcome to Chaplin" about the highlights of the town; and brought a layout draft. Brochure will include a map of various items to highlight and local business information. It is hoped these brochures will be given out at the Big E in 2020.

Leslie is participating in the Bi-Centennial planning for celebratory events. in 2022 for the town and all its related activities.

Volunteers are welcome to attend a pending meeting to be initiated by Bill Rose, to discuss specific details and events for the celebration.

Ann L. will contact Planet Aid and investigate Planet Aid Donation Boxes for recycling in the future. The local collection center was discussed as well as the facebook page and the best way to get the word out about our programs on the internet. If we could increase followong, sharing with friends, a business could be highlighted each month.

Josh no report on networking marketing.

**Sustainable Ct. Discussion:** Irene suggested that the Sustainable program participation will continue and attending workshops is suggested but without commitment of completion of all the requirements for points at this time. The committee agreed on this.

**Irene report:** Irene attended the recent Economic Summit held at the Windham Country Club in Windham out on by Windham Chamber. Several speakers were present at this morning meeting including State officials, Electric company, Eversource, LizDonohue who spoke about expanding their wind energt production off the NewEngland coast and rail representative Charles Hunter discussing his companies attempt to sell rail as a grean and efficient option, Deputy Commissioner of State Economic Development, GwendolynThomas who painted a rosy economic picture, Joe Giulietti , DOT Commissioner who is supportive of tolls in Ct. for additional revenue to support infrastructure needs. A speaker from Salvation Army discussed their work fighting human trafficking and programs for survivors.

Irene is composing a script for the members of the Economic Committee to call a list of local businesses to reach out to see what we can do to support their efforts in town.

Meeting adjourned by Irene at 8:08 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Mix-Siege, temporary secretary