

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 2017 REGULAR MEETING  
CHAPLIN TOWN HALL

Called to order at 7.04.PM

Present members: Irene, Paul, Virginia, Ann, Peggy, Michael, Chris Mckleroy { member of Ad Hoc Hop Committee}, Angie Jacques arrived at 7:30 PM{member of Ad Hoc Festival Committee}

Leslie and Darcy absent so Chair sat Peggy for Leslie and Michael for Darcy.

Chair, Irene taking minutes.

Minutes of July 12,2017 unanimously approved, with Peggy making the motion to approve and Paul the second.

Discussion regarding making our meeting times earlier resulted in deciding to meet at 6:30PM instead of 7PM. Irene will notify the Town Clerk.

Event update and discussion. To accomplish our goals it was agreed that we need more people working on the project, so all members were given business cards and asked to talk about the event and enlist others to help. Networking is encouraged. Irene suggested members attend other local festivals, especially the Mansfield Downtown Festival on September 17, and the Willimantic Food COOP Downtown Country Fair on September 30 in the store parking lot to see vendors and possibly make contacts. Irene stated she would write something to invite volunteers to join us and place it on the Town's Google Groups.

Discussion regarding vendors and it was agreed that it would be by invitation only.

So far several event needs have been identified and here is a list of those tasks taken on.

Publicity: Virginia and Angie

Music: Ann and Chris

Bicentennial Booth: Leslie and Chaplin Librarian Sandy Horning

Signage: Krystina Benson

Crafts:Tory

Photography: Paul

Oversight and Budget: Irene and Peggy

Many other aspects need to be addressed like food, site prep and clean up, parking and traffic,etc.

We spoke about fundraising possibilities like selling food, flowers, and plants, {hopefully donated} and raffles and baskets.

Interest was expressed in a wine and beer tasting tents which involves more information about how this can be done legally.

We hope to involve the schools and Scouts in the event.

Irene thought it would be a good idea to take a field trip to Garrison Park and get a preliminary visual map of the event.

No Business Outreach activities to report, however we plan to visit the new restaurant, Little Niko's Pizzeria, when it opens in September.

Hop Update:

Irene gave materials from a Hop workshop she attended to Chris and Michael. Irene suggested they speak with Zok on North Street in Willimantic who has been selling brewing products for many years and likely knows many brewers, as well as the owner of Willi Brew, David Wollner. Irene will write up something to place on Google Groups to see who is growing or interested in growing and/or brewing.

This Ad Hoc Hop Committee may want to consider organizing a local workshop to educate about growing and brewing opportunities.

Senior Housing: Paul reported funding options, USDA and Hud, as well as types of development, clustered individual dwellings or multi-family units.

Irene and Virginia presented information regarding a workshop sponsored by Rep. Joe Courtney at Eastern Ct. State University Library on August 18, 9-11 AM. Several Federal Agencies will be present for questions after Federal Grants and Community Development initiatives are presented, as well as low income housing credit information and small business assistance opportunities. All are encouraged to attend.

Next meeting: September 13, 2017 @ 6:30 PM, Chaplin Town Hall  
Adjourned at 8.23 PM