

Chaplin Economic and Community Development Commission
May 10, 2017
MINUTES
DRAFT

Attendees: Ann Chuk, Irene Schein, Virginia Siege, Darcy Richard, Leslie Ricklin, Peggy McKleroy

Ann Chuk made a motion to approve the minutes submitted by Bill Rose of the April 12, 2017 meeting, Leslie Ricklin seconded the motion. All in favor.

Virginia Siege reported for Paul Siege that he had been in touch with Diane Nadeau, the President and CEO of the Windham Region Chamber of Commerce. Unfortunately, now isn't a good time for collaborative efforts due to budget constraints.

Irene reported that the community solar program in CT has been installed because they can't determine over who pays for what. Meanwhile, Irene mentioned that solar panel production is, of course, a profitable business and might be feasible to manufacture here. She will report back to us.

Ann Chuk will find out what assistance the CT Economic Resource Center might provide to our community.

Peggy McKleroy reported on the first annual hops growers meeting held in Northford during the second week in January 2017. The meeting drew about 60 current or potential growers and others looking to stake a claim in the emerging industry surrounding the brewing of locally produced craft beer. Peggy will work to arrange a similar meeting here in Northeastern CT. Irene mentioned that Bill Ireland, a well-known local farmer, is currently looking into the business of growing hops too.

Peggy will also chat up the idea of using the senior center/community center for a large community event. For example, movie nights, dance nights, cook/chef on hands food demonstrations, casino nights, easel painting, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

Peggy McKleroy,
a rotating secretary May 15, 2017