

**THOMASTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011 at 7:00 pm
SELECTMAN'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members Present: Jeff Dunn, Rich Sileo, Mike Madow, Joe Hartz, Cesare "Skip" DelVaglio, Matt Stancavage

P&Z Liaison Present: Ralph Celone

Others Present: Doreen Breen, Darryl Maslak, Christine Yoos, Robby Piazzaroli, Town Times, via phone Amy Curran, CGI Communications ([800-398-3029](tel:800-398-3029) x589, amyc@cgicomunications.com)

M Madow called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Minutes:

A motion was made by C DelVaglio and seconded by R Sileo to accept the minutes from the meeting of July 25, 2011. Motion unanimously passed.

Communications:

- The minutes from the July 13th, 2011 sub committee were introduced.

Old Business:

- Discussion of tax incentive plan CGS 12-65e
- Distressed Municipality Requirements
 - Section 32-9p-4 was distributed for review
 - **R Sileo made a motion to table this item until the next meeting, seconded by J Hartz.**

New Business:

- Conference call with CGI regarding the proposed town video project
 - J Hartz provided a brief introduction to the company and the proposal.
 - The video would be filmed in late spring or summer.

- Amy Curran presented the program (please refer to the attached sub committee meetings minutes for complete program details)
- We can send up to 5 minutes of finished video to them on a monthly basis and they will add the content as an extra chapter. This would allow for a fresh chapter each month.
- The biggest issue with moving forward with this program will be to identify who will lead the town through the project.
- **M Madow made a motion to bring the program forward to the Board of Selectman with the EDC's recommendation and recommend that they approve, the motion was seconded by M Stancavage.**
- R Sileo will request 15 minutes at the next Board of Selectman (10/4)

Welcoming New Business:

- Fratelli's opened last week as Rivannia's Restaurant
- Cutie Pie bakery will be opening soon, but haven't come into the office for their sign offs yet.
- A realtor stopped by today to find out if the Laser Tool building on N. Main is also zoned for retail before he lists it.
- P Santa Maria heard from the owner of the day spa that is suppose to go in at 93 N. Main, she bought it through auction, but P. Shanahan (the previous owner) is fighting the auction.
- Pinbro Brothers (the Pinettes) have been before the zoning & wetlands Commissions for approval for a storage and parking facility at 59 River St.
- T. Bobroske asked P&Z for a continuation of his application for the outdoor recreational facility and should either have his approval or denial in Oct.
- Quest Lab has closed. M Madow spoke to them and they would still like a presence in the town. They where forced out when Waterbury Hospital bought the doctors practice. They were steered to the web site with the list of available properties.
- M Madow visited Alcopuco Madrid and spoke to the owner. He indicated that they were doing well.
- JDT's Brick House is working toward opening in the beginning of October.

Subcommittee Reports:

- See above for the web site committee updates
 - R Sileo to investigate putting the questionnaire on the web site or using Survey Monkey.
 - R Sileo to investigate if there is an EDC email box. If so, who is getting those emails. Also find out if there is a way to build a site where property owners can add/update their our for sale properties.

- Incentive Sub Committee
 - Each member should review the distributed materials
- Social Sub Committee
 - No update
- Downtown and Parking Sub Committee
 - The parking meters are not coming out, because the state would have the change the signage.
 - J Dunn to reach out to the Board of Selectman to attempt to gain access to the decision making process.

Public Comment:

C Yoos

- Mentioned that population of Watertown was about 25k.
- Noted that if the parking meters are removed the town would loose some spaces.

D Breen

- Recommended that we don't turn the video project over to the company and that we should work closely with folks in the town that are connected with the local resources.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by J Hartz and seconded by M Madow to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sileo, EDC