

Barkhamsted Economic Development Study Committee
Minutes of February 18, 2009

Attendees: Roger Behrens, Mike Casale, Debbie Ciriello, Leslie DiMartino, John Lavieri, Don Stein; Mark Waterhouse (called-in)

Discussion:

Route 44:

Mark Waterhouse described the process which will be followed to complete the study. The results from the focus group will be used as guidance, and data will be gathered on available property, traffic counts, the feasibility of bringing in utilities and other demographic data. The report will include 5-6 specific actions that should be undertaken over the next 2-3 years, including the possible chartering of a formal Economic Development Commission.

Riverton:

Potential Riverton Events		
Event	Timing	Organization
Fishing Derby	April 18	Riverton Merchants
National Fiberglass Fly Rod Association Convention	May 30	McAllisters Fly Shop
Antiques Show	June	Rick Swenson/Barkhamsted Historical Society
Shakespeare Theater	August	Ted Bachman/John Morici
Riverton Grange Fair	October	Riverton Grange
Riverton Fair	October 9-11	Union Agricultural Society
Christmas in Riverton	December	Riverton Merchants
A Christmas Carol	December	Ted Bachman/John Morici
<i>Spring Festival/Daffodil Parade</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Tracey Hazen</i>
<i>Farmers Market (Don Stein to contact John Ursone at NW Community Bank)</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Diane Curtis(need to contact Bill Burgess at Litchfield Hills Food Systems)</i>
<i>World's First Fly Market</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Mike Casale</i>
<i>Concerts at Fairground</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Tbd</i>
<i>Charity Events (e.g. Cancer Walk)</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Tbd</i>
<i>Wilderness Wellness weekends</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Mike Casale</i>
<i>Riverton Retreats</i>	<i>Tbd</i>	<i>Mike Casale</i>

Other actions related to Riverton:

1. contact Orvis/REI/L.L. Bean/Cabela's (Don/Mike)
2. Riverton meeting, to be scheduled either March 4 or March 11 for community buy-in to the event schedule and plans for economic development. This meeting will also be used to introduce the concept of "Friends of Riverton" to attract additional volunteers. Don to contact Gail Prelli re the use of the Grange Hall.
3. Riverton Merchants website to be updated to reflect planned events (Leslie)
4. Don to install signs in Colebrook near Robertsville Road and on Route 44 near Town Garage with directional arrows and distance to "Historic Riverton"
5. Mike Casale to develop logo and theme for Riverton events, including the concept of a discount/rewards card ("Fly right in Riverton")
6. Don to pursue the use of the Riverton Fairgrounds for parking and tailgating for the Fishing Derby; he will also call Henry Alves at DEP relative to permission for fishermen to camp at the Whittemore Grove