

**Town of Barkhamsted**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 18, 2016**

**Meeting called to order at 7:72 PM**

**Attending members:** Ross Herzog, Ginny Apple, Kevin Noblet, and Bob Pulford. Also present was Don Stein, First Selectman, and Kathryn Boughton, Water Republican-American reporter.

**Review of minutes:** On a motion made by Ginny Apple, seconded by Bob Pulford, and passed unanimously, the minutes of July 21, 2016 were approved.

**Discussion**

**POCD** - The Commission discussed the Plan of Conservation and Development, both the current update due to the State by May 2017 and the prior 2007 Plan. Don Stein described the approval process that the Town must go through, including public hearings, approval by the Board of Selectmen, and final approval by the PZC. The PZC will take into account inputs from all of the Town's boards and commissions as part of the process.

The EDC inputs are as follows:

- The primary emphasis should be to promote tourism and help small business remain and/or expand in town or be attracted to town.
- They recognize that many residents want "limited" economic development, so the focus should be to encourage business where it is appropriate; i.e., the two villages and the Route 44 corridor.
- The prior plan used the terminology "sewer avoidance", which they felt was misleading. Instead the focus should be on bringing sewers to those areas where economically feasible, primarily the area towards the Winsted line (the west end of Route 44).
- Village revitalization should be a major goal.
- Determine why small businesses consider the town to be unfriendly towards business and work on fixing the issues that cause the perception. This should be accomplished via regular business visitation to talk informally with the business owners and to distinguish between town and state issues.
- Provide information about town, state and federal programs that can help small businesses
- Promote regionalism with our neighbor towns, particularly New Hartford and Winsted and work on public relations that would benefit our businesses as well as those in those communities

**Business Visitation Plan** - The members reviewed the business visitation questionnaire developed by Kevin Noblet and assignments for the local businesses to be visited. The consensus was that the

questions should be used for guidance and so that business owner meetings can be somewhat consistent. This will help to compile information and to develop a strategy for improvements.

**Earth Day** – Everyone agreed that the Earth Day event has been growing in terms of numbers of visitors and that it has been very successful. The only request was that Ginny Apple, who is the organizer, try to get volunteers earlier so that needs and task requirements can be better understood and not be a last minute panic.

**Community Calendar/Brochure/Walking Map** – there were no updates available on these items, except that the members felt that a tourist map done in conjunction with New Hartford might be helpful for promoting both towns. Don Stein will reach out to Dan Jerram or the New Hartford EDC to pursue this possibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM, on a motion by Bob Pulford and seconded by Ginny Apple.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein  
First Selectman

The Barkhamsted Economic Development Commission is interested in getting to better know our many locally owned businesses and their owners. We also want to explore new ways we can help you succeed and grow, because your success is critical to our town's sense of place and quality of life.

We've developed a questionnaire to help in this process, and we'd appreciate your taking the time to respond. It will help us better understand your needs and the ways we might help serve you.

1. Why did you choose to locate your business in Barkhamsted?
2. Is the town or state government now doing anything to help you maintain or grow your business? If so, what?
3. Is there anything specific the town could do to better support you? If so, what is it?
4. Do you believe the town government could play a role in connecting you with other local businesses and/or customers? If so, how should it do this?
5. Would you be interested in a get-together of the town's business owners, to share ideas and opinions?
6. Are you interested in having an experienced local business owner be a mentor to you? Alternately, would you be interested in being a mentor to less experienced owners?
7. Are you interested in sharing services, such as bookkeeping, with other locally owned businesses?
8. Are you familiar with Barkhamsted's property tax abatement program for business expansion? Do you have any short- or long-term plans to apply for it?
9. Are town regulations, including zoning, creating any opportunities or obstacles to your business? If so, can you provide specific examples?
10. Is there an area of importance to you that we have failed to mention in this questionnaire? If so, what is it?

Thanks very much for your time. We're always interested in your thoughts and feedback. The Economic Development Commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in Town Hall, and business owners are always welcome to attend and share their thoughts.

| <b>TAXPAYER</b>                  | <b>DBA</b>             | <b>IN_CARE_OF</b>         | <b>PROP_LOC<br/>_ST_NO</b> | <b>PROP_LOC_ST_NAME</b> | <b>EDC VOLUNTEER(S)</b> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| CENTURY WOODWORKING LLC          |                        | MALCOLM GETZ              | 40                         | RIVER RD                | Tim/Don                 |
| DURALITE INC                     |                        | PAULA JESSEN              | 15                         | SCHOOL ST               | Bob P./Don              |
| EDWARD E JONES & SONS INC        |                        | JOHN JONES                | 57                         | RIVER RD                | Don/Tim                 |
| FARBIL LLC                       | SEARS HOMETOWN STORE   | THOMAS HUBBARD            | 380                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Mark                    |
| GOULET PRINTERY                  |                        | CY GOULET                 | 115                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Ginny                   |
| GREENWOOD PETER                  | GREENWOOD GLASS        |                           | 3                          | ROBERTSVILLE RD         | Ginny                   |
| HITCHCOCK CHAIR CO LTD LLC       | STILL RIVER ANTIQUES   | RICK SWENSON              | 13                         | RIVERTON RD             | Don                     |
| J BAZZANO COMPANY LLC            | PLEASANT VALLEY FENCE  | JOE BAZZANO               | 77                         | RIVER RD                | Don                     |
| LIGHTSTAT INC                    |                        | SALLY ROY                 | 22                         | W WEST HILL             | Kevin/Bob P.            |
| LOMBARD FORD INC                 |                        | ROB LOMBARD               | 385                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Mark/Ross               |
| RIVERTON GENERAL STORE LLC       |                        | LESLIE DIMARTINO          | 2                          | MAIN ST                 | Ginny                   |
| SORAGHAN CONSTRUCTION LLC        | SORAGHAN WOODWORKING   | PAUL SORAGHAN             | 4                          | OLD NORTH RD            | Tim/Don                 |
| STERLING ENGINEERING CORPORATION |                        | CHRIS LAVIERI             | 236                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Don                     |
| STEWARTS AUTO PARTS INC          |                        | GARY STEWART              | 109                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Tim/Bill                |
| TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY           | TRACTOR SUPPLY CO #754 | MARVIN F POER AND COMPANY | 380                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | ??                      |
| TRU HITCH INC                    |                        | MARTY MARTIN              | 16                         | W WEST HILL             | Kevin/Bob P.            |
| WHITE PINES LLC                  | WHITE PINES CAMPSITES  | RICHARD FINKEL            | 232                        | OLD NORTH RD            | Ross/mark               |
| WINSTED FEED & SUPPLY LLC        |                        | RICHARD AND MARIAN MILES  | 240                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Ross/Bob P.             |
| WINSTED HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS     |                        |                           | 319                        | NEW HARTFORD RD         | Ross/Bob P.             |
| AERIE MOUNTAIN                   |                        | ROXANNE LOVELL            | 100                        | NEW HARTFORD ROAD       | Mark                    |
| BOULDER RIDGE CAMP               |                        | KEVIN EBNER               | 104                        | GOOSE GREEN ROAD        | Don/Bill                |