

**Town of Barkhamsted**  
**Economic Development Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 16, 2015**

**Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM**

Attending members: Bob Geiger, Ross Herzog, Bill Bowles, Tim Sullivan. Ginny Apple and Bob Pulford. Also present was Don Stein, First Selectman and Jason Giulietti, Vice President, Northwest Chamber of Commerce

**Review of minutes:** A motion was made by Bob Pulford, seconded by Bill Bowles, and passed unanimously to approve the Minutes of the March 19, 2015 meeting. Bob Pulford and Tim Sullivan abstained.

**Discussion :** Jason Giulietti discussed with the members various activities at the Chamber and ways the Chamber could help the Town:

- They are working on re-branding the Chamber to make sure that their activities and image is consistent with their mission
- The Chamber and NHCOG are working together to promote Economic Development and to execute the CEDS
- They have contracted with Winsted to promote the community and to work with the businesses and merchants in the town
- Regional collaboration will be one of the focus points for the Chamber and that could include a joint Winsted/Barkhamsted/New Hartford event
- On Saturday, May 16, the Chamber is sponsoring an event entitled "Celebrate Northwest Connecticut" at the Goshen Fairground which will allow businesses, tourist attractions and towns to exhibit and to advertise to the public.
- Jason indicated he is available to help as needed and that he will focus heavily on regional collaboration. He also said that CERC may be offering shared staff available to the towns for Economic Development initiatives.

**Events:**

- Earth Day (April 26) – Ginny reported that there will be 25-30 exhibitors plus the raptor show and a couple of other nature talks during the event. She requested additional funds due to the increase in cost of the raptors. On a motion by Tim Sullivan, seconded by Bob Geiger, and approved unanimously, the Commission approved an increase in the budget for Earth Day and the Riverton Fishing Derby to a total of \$800. Ginny also requested help with various aspects of the event, including purchasing food and supplies (Bill Bowles volunteered), coolers with ice, tables, lighting/generators (Riverton Fire Department) and tables and chairs. The Lions Club will be doing their River Clean-up that morning also.
- "Halloween Riverside" – tabled due to the absence of Mark Mahoney

**Brochure/Walking Map** – Ginny said that the artist is working on it and should have a proof to look at in the next month.

**Norfolk Housing Grant** – Don Stein reported to the Commission that a 501 (c)3 in Norfolk received the grant to rehab 3 houses and create 10-12 affordable units for workers or seniors. This fits within the Town’s initiatives to look at housing options and needs. The PZC will be holding a public hearing on regulations and the Town will be starting a Housing committee to study this issue.

**Priority Events** – Tabled to the next meeting, but Bill Bowles reported that he had contacted the CONNDOT to determine the procedure for obtaining permission to do a holiday lighting of the PV Bridge. That requires a permit, so he forwarded the information to Don Stein. He also talked about various ways to publicize the town, including participating in the fish survey, stocking, pictures of bear or moose sightings/surveys or the turkey survey. The Commission was also interested in looking at a “battle of the bands” and a firemen’s competition. The Commission also discussed taking advantage of the State tourism website and to help Karl Gallmeyer with the music festival planned for July 24-26.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Stein  
First Selectman