

# **Willington Economic Development Commission Meeting**

## **Minutes**

Wednesday, October 9th , 2019  
Willington Town Office Building  
40 Old Farms Road  
Willington, CT 06279

Notes Taken: Yes

### **Members Present**

Rich Mindek  
Rich Maloney  
Noah Vertefeuille  
Bill Rankin  
Rich LoPresti  
Mary Vertefeuille-Recording Secretary

### **Members Absent**

N/A

1. Call to Order
  - a. 6:29pm
2. Reports
  - a. Website
    - i. The new website is currently under construction.  
(willingtonbusiness.com)
    - ii. We received a new email address specifically for the EDC. This will be used for all businesses in town looking for a way to communicate with the commission. (\$72/year)
    - iii. Approved, Rick and Rich
  - b. Social Media
    - i. Facebook and Instagram will be up soon (Mary)
    - ii. Will update/create new business directory of town businesses
      1. Who, what, contact info, direct contact, etc.
  - c. We need a Call to Action/Mission Statement
  - d. In the process of working on how to collect money/donations
    - i. Level idea? Each level of giving allows for customizations?
  - e. Mr. LoPresti

- i. Business Breakfast at Mill
  - 1. Logistics will be determined
  - 2. Date is Tuesday, March 24th, 2020
- ii. Chamber of Commerce would be a great organization to join. Specifically for Tolland County. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month
- iii. Capital Region Council of Government-another organization to join. This group doesn't meet regularly, but might be a good one to join for ideas.
- iv. Properties in Willington update:
  - 1. 165 River Road-owned by Blue Vergo Capital Management
  - 2. 335 River Road-B&M Realty Trust
- v. New idea: Join CEDIS (CT Economic Development Association). There are many professionals in the organization. Through organization, there is a course we could take to see if we use best practices in economic development.

### 3. Old Business

- a. Zone Changes
  - i. Planning and Zoning meeting was on September 3rd. They approved the zone change for commercial design. They are also looking to change zoning issues in densely populated areas. One piece to consider is that all septic systems need to match the zoning in each area.
- b. Railroad:
  - i. Needs 25-30 acres near rail road. There are plans to reach out to land owners that touch railroad about land usage for project. It's good to get ahead of the project to bring to Willington before other towns get involved. Bill will run project.
- c. Truck Stop:
  - i. Still waiting on Planning and Zoning committee
- d. Solar Panels:
  - i. This is important. Definitely something we should look into. If the Town decides to add these, they will save money and will reduce tax increases.
  - ii. Potentially the hill at the transfer station? Requires 15 acre minimum.

### 4. New Business

- a. N/A

### 5. Adjournment

a. 7:52pm

**Next Meeting is on November 13th, 2019**