Willington Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 11th, 2019 Willington Town Office Building 40 Old Farms Road Willington, CT 06279

Notes Taken: Yes

Members Present

Rich Mindek Rich Maloney Bill Rankin Mary Vertefeuille-Recording Secretary

Members Absent

N/A

- 1. Call to Order
 - a. 6:27pm
- 2. Reports
 - a. Business List
 - We are currently in search of an intern for EDC to help with business development. Job posting is on the Willington website
 - b. Ashford Business Association (ABA)
 - i. Currently trying to meet and cooperate with ABA for future plans
 - 1. Event hosting, marketing, etc.
 - 2. Small "chamber of commerce" between two towns
 - 3. Gives us a broader overview for Willington businesses
- 3. Old Business
 - a. New Businesses/Brewery
 - i. The space is currently zoned residential which causes many issues when trying to add businesses to the town
 - ii. It may be best to partner with someone who wants to open business after making an application and go try to change zoning issues together.
 - iii. We want to spot, invite, and include other areas of the town.
 - 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.
- ii. Doesn't have to be in Willington, but would be ideal.
- iii. DOT Land is appropriate for the job near the highway.
- iv. Project is too big to handle alone. We need to include state legislation and DOT.
- v. Potentially get Planning and Zoning to take charge of the project.
- 4. New Business
 - a. N/A
- 5. Adjournment
 - a. 7:15pm

Next Meeting is on January 8th, 2019