

## EDC Meeting

May 10, 2017

Cindy Sola called the meeting to order at 6:37.

Attendance: Kate, Cindy, Steve, Mike, Dave, Joe (7:00 arrival)

Approval of minutes plated until next month

## Old Business

- a. Mucket grant – Kate provided an update about the grant we received from National Main Street. The donation page is live and ready for donations. We will be matched up to \$1,500. Still need to find an artist who can draw the drawings for the statues. Mike expressed concern about how the mucket may look too scary or monster-like; is it possible to make it a little more kid-friendly? Cindy responded the final drawings will need to be approved by Art Wiknik, creator of the original mucket. Kate stated we'll need to get the word out about the donations. Kate will submit article to HaddamNow, possibly Haddam Bulletin. Post on the Higganum/Haddam Facebook groups, reach out to news channels. Intent is to buy four muckets but will try to raise additional money. Kate to confirm: what is the date deadline for donations?
- b. EDC mission – Handouts provided. Lori drafted a purpose statement, Dave will draft mission statements and purpose statements for review at next meeting.
- c. Website: general discussion about what's already available on the EDC page linked to the town of Haddam website and what do we want to see. What we'd like to add is:
  - a. Trails
  - b. Business directory
  - c. Update homepage text based on mission/purpose statements drafted by Dave and Lori.

Who will be responsible for overseeing the EDC page? Cindy said the part-time EDC coordinator can oversee.

In the future, we'd like to create separate pages for ongoing projects like the jail – would need to work with the Building Committee to get this done.

## New Business

- a. Fall Weekend: Cindy Sola reported tourism committee discussed having everything at Haddam Meadows. Events will include boat rides, train rides, East Haddam winery tastings, fireworks. Tentative date is 9/9 rain date 9/10. Unfortunately we can't sell or have food @ Eagle's Landing so the Meadows appears to be our only option at this point. (Side note: can we approach the state to take over Eagle's Landing? Other towns have done it. Seems to be major inconsistencies where the state will/will not let events happen at state-owned properties.) Activities will run 1-

8. Vendors set up around noon and have to be out by 6 for fireworks...maybe later if it's still light out.

Cindy reported that East Haddam looking at 10/7 and 10/8 for their fall weekend – Essex Steam Train, etc. and was wondering if we'd like to participate – right now it looks as if we'll be holding on to our September date. 9/8 is also Family Fun Night so there's cohesion between our events. Discussion about possibly have crafters on the Haddam Green from 9-1?

- b. History of Tylerville – Cindy was wondering: Higganum has the mucket, does Tylerville have some unique piece of history that we can celebrate? Haddam Historical Society has a brief blurb about Tylerville and Shailerville history. Joe has some interesting Tylerville facts. Would like to get Lori Maggi's input.
- c. Working with other committees – tabled for the future. Steve had sent some info on Clinton and Storrs and what they've done and are doing. (s)
- d. Meet w/ Main Street – Cindy would like to schedule meeting with either CT or National Main Street once the mucket fundraiser is over to learn more about their services/programs and how we can benefit.

Additional business/rumor mill – Kate inquired about the screws in the road on 154 – what can we do? Steve is wondering: is this affecting businesses in towns because people are avoiding driving on 154? General discussion about what's being done (police, DOT investigation).

Cindy moved to adjourn at 7:32. Kate seconded.