

**TOWN OF HADDAM
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
COMMUNITY CENTER
7 CANDLEWOOD HILL ROAD, HIGGANUM, CT 06441
WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2016
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

ATTENDANCE

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| X | Kate Anderson, Secretary |
| X | Stephen Bayley, Vice Chairman |
| X | Joe Bergin |
| A | Dan Dachelet |
| X | Mike Farina |
| X | Dave Fleig |
| X | Lori Maggi |
| X | Cindy McNeil Sola, Chairman |
| A | Ed Vynalek |
| X | Lizz Milardo, First Selectman |
| X | Liz Glidden, Town Planner |
| X | Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk |
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1. Call to Order

Mrs. Sola, chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

2. Attendance

Attendance was taken.

3. Approval of Agenda

No additions/corrections made.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Fall Events

a. Haddam Fall River Days (Saturday, 1 October 2016)

Mrs. Sola distributed and reviewed two handouts pertaining to specific events at Eagle Landing and the Haddam Meadows, respectively.

Eagle Landing, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Mrs. Sola reported the list contains items as they were on Tuesday night, but additional items have developed. Touch-a-Truck - additional trucks welcome. Essex Steam Train – Free rides at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. going north to Midway Marina and back to Goodspeed Station. List of vendors reviewed. Mrs. Sola asked Mrs. Glidden if music was allowed with Mrs. Glidden responding a special permit would be required and it's too late to obtain one. Mrs. Sola reported Essex Steam Train has offered garbage cans and bags and will dispose of all the trash from Eagle Landing (driver and truck will monitor). Resident trooper will supervise crossing from Eagle Landing to Goodspeed Station. Hot dog vendor confirmed, Whey Station has not confirmed, Mr. Softee Ice Cream considering the event (will move them to Haddam Meadows so as not to compete with the ice

cream shop in East Haddam). Mrs. Sola stated volunteers are needed – any and all welcome. Mrs. Glidden will assist in guiding vendors to their appropriate locations.

Haddam Meadows, 2:00 p.m. to Fireworks – Mrs. Sola reported the Essex Steam Train will be offering free Hi-Rail Rides, Cart Rides. Lions Club meeting to discuss possible hayrides and possibly selling hamburgers or pizza to go towards the cost of the liability insurance to give the hayrides. Haddam Historical Society and Rivers Days Committee may have a display. Listed organizations/local businesses that will be selling or offering food. Haddam Library interested in doing something unclear what it is. Mrs. Sola reviewed the craft show participants. Face and mini pumpkin painting available. Apple and pumpkin pie tasting contest – one judge has volunteered; need at least two more. HK Art Students – selling their ceramics. HK Project Graduation will have a booth. Mrs. Sola reviewed where event will be advertised.

Mrs. Sola reported she had been contacted by ICRV radio to do an interview along with Bob Casner, chairman, East Haddam EDC (unable to contact him) in regard to the event. Mrs. Glidden stated there's no reason why Mrs. Sola cannot do the interview on her own.

Mrs. Sola reported the town is providing no parking signs and renting light towers and port-o-potties, and contact needs to be made with whoever roped out the parking area for the fireworks. Mrs. Sola asked if there's a chance to have a banner sign made and placed over Route 154. Mrs. Glidden and Mr. Bayley suggested the previous River Days sign be used and the date changed.

Mrs. Sola stated a number of volunteers are required to help guide vendors to their appropriate locations. Ms. Anderson volunteered to work at the Meadows.

Mrs. Sola reviewed other possible organizations that would like to have a tent at the Meadows and asked if there were any organizations she may have missed. Mrs. Glidden stated perhaps she will coordinate a Plan of Conservation (POCD) booth. Mrs. Sola stated Higganum Village Market will provide a giveaway, but a table, tent, and manpower are required. Mrs. Maggi asked if River Valley Provisions had been contacted. Mrs. Sola stated no and asked Mrs. Maggi if she would contact them. Mrs. Maggi stated she will contact them as well as Adorable Pets and Cooking Company. Discussion followed in regard to other community groups/organizations that may be interested in participating.

b. Halloween Event

Haunted House and Graveyard, Saturday, 29 October 2016, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Mrs. Sola reported Chuck Cook contacted her in regard to a haunted house event. Mr. Cook will provide, free of charge, all the decorations for a haunted house in the Community Center. The main meeting room will be divided into two rooms leading out the back door through a haunted graveyard, moving along the side of the building and coming back out to the front. For the younger children a less intimidating haunted house will be set up in the garage bay area with children entering through the side door and getting a treat at the end of the hallway and walking back out again.

Trunk or Treat, Saturday, 29 October 2016, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Mrs. Sola reported she would like to shut down Candlewood Hill Road at the cross over (back of Green) and have cars parked down the road toward the Center as well as in the parking lot and if there are sufficient cars, parked along Route 81. Mrs. Sola would like to keep everything on the same side of the road as the Community Center going down to Higganum Pharmacy for safety purposes. All merchants are invited to participate in the event.

Mrs. Maggi asked if these events are listed on the town's website and calendar. Mrs. Glidden stated the Fall River Days event is listed, but the Halloween event is not. Mrs. Glidden will get the Halloween event on the calendar and website.

Mrs. Sola stated Mr. Cook would like to make this a full weekend event in the future. Mrs. Sola asked if everyone could donate some candy, it would be appreciated. Mrs. Sola stated she doesn't know a lot about Trunk or Treat and is a bit unclear how to handle this.

Mrs. Maggi asked who's liable if someone should get hurt. Mrs. Glidden stated she would assume the town. Discussion followed in regard to whether or not to advertise to the public or just pass out fliers to the schools. The goal is to see if Youth and Family Services (YFS) would be interested in running the Trunk or Treat event. Mrs. Glidden to contact YFS and will check on the liability insurance.

Mrs. Sola will contact Red Neck Donuts to see if they would like to set up to offer donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate.

Mr. Bayley asked Mrs. Maggi if she felt there was sufficient room in the Cooking Company's parking lot to offer a Trunk or Treat at that end of town. Mrs. Maggi stated she felt it would be better to offer it at River Valley Provisions. Mr. Bergin stated Eagle Landing may be a better location as it's a big open space.

c. Meet and Greet

Mrs. Sola reported the Meet and Greet has been scheduled for Tuesday, 27 September 2016, at the Fire House. Mrs. Glidden stated the idea is for EDC and the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to have something exclusively for the merchants where they can meet/talk. Mrs. Glidden also stated the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) is following up on a presentation they did approximately a year ago. Mrs. Glidden stated the hope is that a Haddam Merchants Association will come out of this event. Mrs. Sola stated Greg McKenna is interesting in heading the association.

Discussion followed in regard to the time frame, whether or not the invitations have been printed and mailed out, and whether the event could be pushed off until after the fall events. The Commission felt it would be best if it were held in November and after further discussion felt that Wednesday, 9 November, EDC's regular meeting night, would be a good night to hold the Meet and Greet at the Community Center.

Mrs. Maggi asked if home business owners and contractors would be included in this event. Mrs. Sola stated she felt they should be included as they're a big part of the town. Mrs. Glidden agreed. Mrs. Glidden will ask Maureen Tary, Land Use Administrative Assistant, to create mailing labels.

Mrs. Sola advised Mrs. Milardo of the date has been changed and asked if she was agreeable. Mrs. Milardo stated it should be fine as the invitations have not been printed.

Hayride, Haddam Fall River Days - Larry Maggi, Haddam Lions Club, reported liability wise it would be difficult for the Club to do the hayride with a tractor and have it be nice and look right. Mr. Maggi stated he spoke to John Allegra who is available to do a horse drawn hayride for \$1,000 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., possibly a little over, but must be out by dusk. Mr. Maggi reported the Club has a pizza oven and any money made from it will be donated over to the cost of the hayride with the Lions picking up the balance. Mr. Maggi stated the only thing the Lions are asking for is if there's another club who could donate a little bit of money, it would be appreciated; otherwise, the Lions will have to foot the entire cost. Mrs. Glidden suggested the Masons would be a good candidate to ask in regard to helping with this. Mrs. Sola will contact the Masons as well as the Higganum Vision Group. Mr. Maggi asked if anyone is pulling a permit. Mrs. Glidden stated she will check with DEEP to see if a permit is required and if the horses are allowed. Mr. Maggi also asked what the Health Dept. will be charging for the food permit. Mrs. Glidden stated she thought it would only be \$25, but will check on this also.

Lizz Milardo, First Selectman, reported the Commission has a new member, Brenda Hunter.

6. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bunny Hall Batzner

Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 14 September 2016.