

**TOWN OF HADDAM  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
7 CANDLEWOOD HILL ROAD, HIGGANUM, CT 06441  
WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2019  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

**ATTENDANCE**

X	Prem Aithal, Vice Chairman
X	Kate Anderson, Chairman
X	Mike Farina
A	Cindy MacNeil Sola
A	Megan Mularski
X	Doreen Staskelunas, Secretary
A	Courtney Emschwiler Swokla
A	Robin Munster, EDC Coordinator
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Anderson, chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge was recited.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Doreen Staskelunas motioned to approve the 10 July 2019 agenda as submitted. Prem Aithal second. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Comment**

There was no one from the public present.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Correction to the 10 April 2019 minutes: page 3, EDC Coordinator’s Report, Business Opportunities, Rob and Lori Lloyd – change “Net Tech” to “TechNet”.

**MOTION:** Mike Farina motioned to approve the 10 April 2019 minutes as amended. Kate Anderson second. Motion carried unanimously.

Correction to the 8 May 2019 minutes: page 3, Old Business, a. Mucket – Update, second paragraph, second line – change “were” to “where”.

**MOTION:** Mike Farina motioned to approve the 8 May 2019 minutes as amended. Prem Aithal second. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission agreed to table the approval of the 12 June 2019 minutes.

## **6. Old Business**

### **a. Mucket - Update**

Ms. Anderson distributed three revised 3D renderings of the Mucket. Discussion followed in regard to the "Higganum Mucket" sign not showing on the rendering, possibly making the nostrils smaller or removing them completely, making the eyes softer (this may come with painting), and the horns making the Mucket look slightly demonic (not kid friendly). Ms. Anderson will contact the company again in regard to the sign and talk to them about the Commission's concerns and see what their feedback is. Noted that Art Wiknik must give approval prior to ordering.

### **b. River Days – 7 September 2019**

Ms. Anderson reported that Robin Munster, EDC Coordinator, heard back from DEEP and the event must be held on the first Saturday after Labor Day. Due to staff changes at DEEP, the application will be submitted to Cockaponset Ranger Station, which may make the process easier. Discussion followed in regard to civic groups being listed on the application and coordinating what each group will be selling (an attempt to avoid overlap of food product).

### **c. Connecticut Economic Development Association (CEDAS) Best Practices Application**

Ms. Anderson distributed a copy of the application and asked the Commissioners present to review. Ms. Anderson will email Lizz Milardo, First Selectman, and Bill Warner, Town Planner, to make sure it's o.k. to submit the application. Ms. Anderson questioned if Haddam is a member of CEDAS. If so, all EDC commissioners can be members.

**7. New Business Budget** – Ms. Anderson reported the new fiscal year as begun and the Commission is fully financed. Some of the funding will go towards the purchase of Mucket statues, printing of the brochure, and music for the Farmers' Market.

## **8. Subcommittee Reports**

### **a. Palm Card**

**Subcommittee members: Ms. Anderson, Mr. Farina and Mrs. Staskelunas**

Ms. Anderson reported a draft of the brochure has been started. Subcommittee members to meet to review the draft prior to the August meeting.

### **b. Market on the Green**

**Subcommittee members: Mr. Aithal, Mrs. Swokla, and Mrs. Munster**

Mr. Aithal reported that Wellstone Farm and Forest City Farm had their crops damaged during the recent hail storm and will not be at the 11 July 2019 Market; however, Deep Hollow Farm, Roots to Wellness, Oh, Fudge, Kelsey's Kilning It, Personal Wellness, Dough on Main, etc., will be in attendance! Discussion followed as to who will be available to cover the event, possible themes for some of the upcoming Markets, and providing music (if not a live band, a cd).

## **9. Committee Reports**

**Haunted House and Trunk or Treat** – Ms. Anderson reported Chuck Cook has reached out to her regarding who will be sponsoring the event; and after doing some research, the event was turned over to Park and Rec and Youth and Family Services. Discussion followed in regard to other civic and church groups possibly being able to assist with this event.

**Haddam Elementary School (HES) Update** - Ms. Anderson reported Bill Warner, Town Planner, will be making a presentation at the Planning and Zoning Commission's 18 July 2019 meeting at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam. Ms. Anderson also reported that Mr. Warner put out a brief survey regarding the use of the property (survey can be found on the town's website).

#### **10. EDC Coordinator's Report**

**Steady Habit Brewing Co.** – Discussion followed in regard to their closing at their Tylerville location and when they may be able to reopen in their new location in Higganum.

**Rossi, 300 Saybrook Road** – There is nothing new to report at this time.

**Scovil Mills** – Ms. Anderson reported the town has received another Brownfields Grant that can be used towards investigative or remediation work.

**Gateway Commission** – Mr. Farina reported there is funding available from Gateway and they will be assisting the Haddam Land Trust with some funding for their newly acquired properties – Swan Hill, Higganum Cove, and Shopboard Rock. Mr. Farina noted that Higganum Cove is not currently covered by the Conservation Zone; however, it does fall within the Gateway Zone.

#### **11. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Kate Anderson motioned to adjourn. Prem Aithal second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bunny Hall Batzner*

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Recording Clerk

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 14 August 2019.**