

**DRAFT
TOWN OF MONTVILLE
MEETING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
June 21, 2010**

1. Call to Order.

Vice-chair Al Skulczyck called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call.

Commissioners James Andriote, Sr., Leonard Bunnell, Jr., Ann Mattson, Jim Toner, and Al Skulczyck, were present. Commissioners John Diamantini, Marjorie Gatheral, and Robert Thorn were absent. Also attending was Town Planner Marcia Vlaun.

4. Remarks from the Public regarding items on the Agenda (three minute limit).

None

5. Adjustments to the Agenda.

None

6. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting—April 19, 2010.

Motion: That the Commission approves the April 19, 2010, minutes as written.

Proposed by: James Andriote

Seconded by: Jim Toner

Vote: Carried unanimously

7. Communications.

None

8. Guest Speaker – Nature’s Art.

None

9. New Business.

a. Update from Mayor.

i. Incentive programs for new Town businesses.

Mayor Jaskiewicz was absent from the meeting.

b. Update from Town Planner.

M. Vlaun handed out to the Commissioners a list of new businesses, labor market and housing trends for CT, and the *CT Economic Digest* with labor market information for June 2010. She reported that the unemployment rate in Montville is at 7.8% but that it will fluctuate given there is no good news on the State level. M. Vlaun also reported on a 262-unit housing development that will be built near the casino. She also mentioned that she spoke with the CT Economic Resource Center about doing an economic study of the Town.

c. From the EDC Liaison.

B. Caron was absent from the meeting.

**d. From Standing Committees.
i. Montville Marvels.**

No report.

**e. From Special Committees.
i. SBA Committee.**

J. Toner revisited the handout given to the Commissioners at its April meeting that talks about why businesses fail in the first five (5) years and ways in which the Commission can provide assistance to businesses in Montville. He wanted to know if the plan was viable and in learning finding out which Commissioners wanted to take on the action items. He talked about funds received through SCORE from Dime Bank for workshops about business planning. J. Toner agreed to give a copy of the information to M. Vlaun. He also entertained questions about contacting new businesses and determining how the Commission could offer their assistance to them. M. Vlaun agreed to provide a list of new Town businesses from January, 2010 to present.

Motion: That the Commission proposes to do outreach with new Town businesses to assist them as designated in the fact sheet submitted by J. Toner

Proposed by: Jim Andriote

Seconded by: Len Bunnell

Vote: Carried 4-1; J. Andriote, J. Toner, L. Bunnell, A. Skulczyck, *in favor*
A. Mattson, *opposed*

G. Gathers notified the Commission that introduction letters are mailed to new businesses. The Commission agreed that businesses would be contacted by phone before making a visit. J. Toner, J. Andriote, and L. Bunnell agreed to make calls to set up appointments with businesses. J. Toner will also work with M. Vlaun as to contacts with area towns regarding business retention.

10. Unfinished Business.

a. Incentive Programs for discussion (Commissioner Andriote).

J. Andriote stated that given the budget constraints in the Town is an incentive program something that the Commission should continue to look at. He also continues to gather information from other CT towns.

b. Organize a Historical Scenic Travel Route as a tourism incentive.

J. Toner reported that he has not done any work as of yet on this project. M. Vlaun suggested that the Town Historian Attorney Chase be invited to speak with the Commission. She proposed having him meet with the Commission at their September meeting. She also suggested that the cornerstone for the tourism project should be the church at Meeting House Lane and Raymond Hill. M. Vlaun said the route is laid out in the Town's Plan of Development.

c. Research possible tax incentive programs for bringing in new businesses. Look at what other towns have done in this area as a comparison.

Ann Mattson will speak with C. Longton to have this item removed from the agenda.

d. Discussion of Commission letter of opposition to halfway house. (Commissioners Andriote and Bunnell).

This item will be removed from the agenda as the State has made its decision to house the facility in Montville.

11. New Business.

a. Review and revise Commission rules and procedures.

Motion: That the Commission tables discussion to review and revise the Commission Rules and Procedures.

Proposed by: Ann Mattson
Seconded by: Jim Andriote
Vote: Carried unanimously

12. Other Business.

None

13. Remarks (three minute limit).

a. From Individual Commissioners.

J. Andriote thanked J. Toner for the work he has done on the SBA Committee. M. Vlaun commented that she would be on vacation for the next meeting.

b. From Town Council Liaison.

B. Caron was absent from the meeting.

c. From the Public on EDC topics.

None

10. Adjournment.

Motion: That the meeting is adjourned.
Proposed by: Len Bunnell
Seconded by: Jim Toner
Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Albert Skulczyck, Vice-chair
Economic Development Commission

Gloria J. Gathers, Recording Secretary

Approved: _____