

Essex Economic Development Commission (EDC) Meeting Minutes

June 2nd, 2022

Online via Microsoft Teams

Hybrid at 81 Main Street, Essex Junction

Attendees

- *EDC* - Chair Brian Shelden, Vice Chair Jeff Benjamin, Ms. Ta-Tanisha Redditta, Mr. Nick Fukuda
- *Staff* - Darren Schibler, Jean O'Sullivan

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:05am by Chair Brian Shelden

Updates to Agenda

- No updates to agenda
- No public to be heard
- Approved previous minutes

Planning Commission Updates

- Darren – Intention to get core commissions together (EDC & Planning Commission) to discuss open ended list planning items
 - Topics on the list will be sent out in June
 - Tasks/action items from list to be assigned to commission members

Jean O'Sullivan

- Town business census being finalized
- Census will feature:
 - Name of business, address, SIC code, and a contact name
- Goal – Identify strengths and weaknesses within VT's workforce
 - Have list census completed by next meeting

Saxon Hill

- Meeting with business owners there on 6/8
- Looking to identify State sponsored business incentives that could spur growth

EDC Structure

- Near term - moving to add 2 local business owners to EDC
- Post-split - Darren drafting new structure:
 - 5 members from town
 - 5 members from city

Commercial Realtors

- EDC to draft letter inquiring about wants and needs.
- Looking to identify how well Essex is going in the commercial real estate market relative to other towns

Small Business Promotions

- Continuing to identify interested business owners and highlighting the value their businesses bring to the community
- Looking to target Essex Expo businesses to see if the promos are impactful
- Will start promotions by featuring Bramble

Partner Updates

- None

Next Meeting July 7th, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at 9:07AM

Minutes approved July 7th, 2022