

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
January 15, 2020

PRESENT: Chairman John Allen, Commissioners: Richard Juel, Hank Teskey, Robert Werner, John May (sitting for A. Reu) John Hussaini (arrived 6:53 p.m.)

Guests: John Olsen and Tim Guerra

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes of December 10, 2019:

- A motion as made by H. Teskey, seconded by R. Juel to approve the minutes of December 10, 2019 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: None

Guests:

- J. Olsen attended the meeting at the request of A. Reu
 - He gave some background information as to the various boards and committees he has served on and does serve on presently

Old Business:

Clinton Manufacturing Coalition:

- The CMC met with Colin Cooper, Chief Manufacturing Officer for the State of Connecticut
- R. Werner was invited to attend a CBIA meeting in Hartford
- R. Werner will be meeting with Bonnie Del Conte of CONNSTEP
- P. Williams, O. Bausch, K. Tanner, J. Allen and A. Reu met with Superintendent M. O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent M. Famiglietti, BoE Chairman E. Gelven, teachers R. Richetelli and E. Bergman, student M. Barrows and Town Council Chairman C. Aniskovich to discuss bringing the STEM program to the Clinton school curriculum
 - The school is having a career day on March 19, 2020
 - R. Werner will work with the Guidance Office for career day
 - P. Williams and O. Bausch will find speakers to introduce STEM to students
 - As a point of interest, Westbrook High School has a career and college readiness counselor
 - There are classes, such as coding in 5th grade, currently in the Clinton system that could be considered part of the STEM program
 - These need to be identified and brought to the attention of all students, parents and businesses
- P. Williams and O. Bausch will review the school curriculum and suggest informed programming with real world impact that could be used in manufacturing
- The Guidance Office should not strictly focus on college opportunities, but include career opportunities
- J. Allen reported on some facts that were discussed at the January 7, 2020 CMC meeting
 - Tech high schools and community colleges only fill half the open manufacturing positions
 - MIF will pay up to half the cost of training that is needed
 - There are partnership programs and voucher programs available
 - 35% of the manufacturing workforce is over 55 years of age

Town Council Presentation January 22, 2020:

- J. Allen and R. Werner will provide an update on the EDC's progress and goals at the January 22, 2020 meeting
- Updates on the Unilever property and the Old Morgan property were given by T. Guerra

2020 Clinton Trolley Planning:

- P. Orsini, J. Allen and S. Maxwell will work on preparing the trolley for this summer season
 - Tentatively it is planned to run from Memorial Day to Labor Day
 - The schedule will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, no trolley run on Sunday
 - Discussing the route, the trolley will take this year
 - Possibly do more shuttles for the marinas
 - Possibly set up a kiosk at Clinton Crossings advertising the trolleys' availability
 - Have some theme nights
 - Research if the trolley can go into Hammonasset Beach

New Business:

FY 2020-2021 Budget:

- The budget FY 2020-2021 was distributed, reviewed and discussed
- Reviewed the current budget noting there is \$5,000 left for advertising
 - The town needs to market itself

Town Marketing Plan:

- Need to determine the key message, audience you are marketing to, vehicle (social media) to use to advertise, the budget, and timetable
- Stonington Bough has a good advertising website
- Kenyon International has a good video on their website

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk