

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 – 6:30PM
BREWERY LEGITIMUS**

PRESENT: John Burdick, Mary Ann Gunning, Donna LaPlante, Shelley Lloyd, Polly Pobuda, Meg Toro and Commission Secretary Debbie Ventre.

ABSENT: Jack Casey, Pat Casey, Alternate Bill Baxter.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: See attached

Attendees mingled and socialized until Chairman Toro greeted everyone at 7:05 pm and thanked them for coming. She expressed appreciation to the Business Council for partnering with the EDC and providing the food for this event. She also recognized Chris and Christina Sayer for hosting the event at their brewery.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND SEATING OF ALTERNATES.

No alternates were seated as a quorum of EDC members was present.

2. TOWN WEBSITE and CTVISIT Workshop

Chairman Toro introduced Secretary Ventre as website administrator for the town. Ms. Ventre utilized the brewery's menu monitor screens to guide businesses present through the new Town website and specifically the Business Directory. She demonstrated how to request a business account and how to navigate the editing tools for the business listings. She also reviewed the Community Calendar and the process for submitting events. Guests present inquired about categories in the business directory and the listing review process.

Chris Sayer suggested that a postcard with the website information could be provided to local businesses to place on their bulletin board. He noted that he has a board near the restrooms where people place business cards and such. A card with the town's new website address and possibly the site for the events calendar would be viewed by anyone waiting to use the restroom.

With no further questions on the town website, Ms. Ventre introduced guests to the State's tourism site at ctvisit.com. Although most of the businesses present would not meet the state criteria to appear on ctvisit, she did step through the Town's page and demonstrated the links at the bottom to cross refer to other local businesses on the site.

Greg O'Brien introduced himself and thanked Chris & Christina Sayer, the New Hartford Business Council and the EDC for offering this workshop. He noted that he will be registering visitors at Saturday's Open Farm Day and announcing the Door Prize winners at New Hartford Day.

Following the presentation, EDC members chatted with attendees and encouraged them to submit their request for a business listing on the town site.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

Event adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Ventre, Commission Secretary