

## **Economic Improvement Commission Minutes**

The Economic Improvement Commission (EIC) held a meeting on Thursday, September 25, 2014, at the Charlestown Town Hall, 4530 South County Trail, Charlestown, RI.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Frank Glista called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.
2. **ROLL:** Present were Chairman Frank Glista, Don Smith, Betty Combs, Janice Falcone and Ron Russo. Paula Andersen, Town Council liaison was present.
3. **MINUTES:** The minutes from the July 31, 2014 meeting was unanimously approved on a motion from Ron Russo and seconded by Janice Falcone. Minutes were amended on a motion from Ron Russo and seconded by Don Smith to correct the fundraising venue for the Friends of Ninigret to Rhythm and Roots.
4. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**
  - (a) Friends of Ninigret - Ron Russo reported that a meeting will be held on September 25. The results from the fundraising from at the Rhythm and Roots will be reported.
5. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - (a) Sign Ordinance/Review - The EIC will look to the results of the business survey and meet with the Chamber of Commerce for direction before recommending any sign ordinance changes.
  - (b) Ninigret Master Plan - The discussion centered on events and capacity of the park for events.
  - (c) Marketing Strategy - Bike path. The Chairman advised that the committee has been formed and anyone can join by completing an application at the town hall.
  - (d) Water Resources Board - The Water Resources Board is considering the purchase of land to ensure the availability of a future water source for the town.
6. **SPECIAL PROJECTS/ACTION ITEMS:**
  - (a) Fire Station Memorial Park - The Chairman met with Kevin Gallop and it appears that the Fire District is getting closer to making a decision on the property.
7. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - (a) Business Leaders Input - 1999/2000 URI Business Survey - The commission continued its review of the survey and developed additional strategies for implementation. The Chairman will attend the Charlestown Chamber of Commerce meeting to encourage their participation.
  - (b) Town Business Map - The chairman has made a contact is awaiting a response.
8. **COMMUNICATIONS:** The new state EDC called R.I. Commerce has been formed and Marcel A Valois is the new director.
9. **OPEN SESSION:** Ron Russo reported on the progress of the agreement for the public well at Chuch of the Holt Spirit and Church Woods, proposed affordable housing complex.
10. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Parks and Recreation Director Jay Primiano, advised that the town will sponsor the 1st Annual Pumpkin Trail Walk on October 25 from 5:00 to 8:30 and the 1st Annual Trunk or Treat on October 29 from 6:00 to 8:00, both at Ninigret Park.
11. **NEXT MEETING DATE and AGENDA ITEMS** - Set for 9:00 AM Thursday, October 23, 2014 at the Town Hall Planning Dept. Annex Room.
12. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 11:07 AM on motion by Janice Falcone, seconded by Ron Russo.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary, Don Smith