

Economic Improvement Commission Minutes

The Economic Improvement Commission (EIC) held its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 27, 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 9:02 AM.
2. ROLL: Present were Chairman Frank Glista, Janice Falcone, Don Smith, Betty Combs and Ron Russo. EIC member Bob Beggs was absent. Resident, Bonnie Van Slyke attended.
3. MINUTES: A motion to accept the minutes of February 27, 2014, was unanimously approved on a motion from Janice Falcone and seconded by Ron Russo.
4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:
 - (a) Friends of Ninigret - Ron Russo reported that he attended a meeting on March 20 and the committee discussed ways to advance their goals.
5. OLD BUSINESS:
 - (a) Sign Ordinance - The EIC will meet on April 10 to review the sign proposed sign ordinance.
 - (b) Ordinances, Resolutions, and Proclamations:
 - Ordinance #362 amending Zoning Ordinance District Map (Map 17, Lot 185)** Withdrawn.
 - Ordinance #363 amending chapter 218-39 - Zoning, Parking** The Council withdrew the amendment regarding the concealing of trailers and vehicles on residential property and approved the ordinance.
 - Ordinance #364 amending chapter 155 - Nuisances** The Council remanded this back to the Planning Commission for revisions.
6. SPECIAL PROJECTS:
 - (a) Fire Station Park - No update from the Fire District.
7. NEW BUSINESS:
 - (a) Business Leaders Input - 1999/2000 URI Business Survey. The Commission reviewed the report and the members will consolidate thoughts and priorities for the Chairman's review.
 - (a) Ninigret Master Plan - The Commission reviewed the update and will monitor the progress of the plan.
 - (c) Marketing Strategy Charlestown Arts & Crafts Ramble Questionnaire - Betty Combs made a motion to move forward with the printing and distribution of the questionnaire. Janice Falcone seconded the motion. Bonnie Van Slyke suggested that self addressed envelopes be included. The motion passed.
 - (d) Chariho Budget - The Commission discussed the school budget vote and the implication of a "no" vote.
8. COMMUNICATIONS: None.
9. OPEN SESSION: The Chairman reported that the SBA has issued only one loan for a Charlestown resident since the Business Forum was held last October.
10. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.
11. NEXT MEETING DATE and AGENDA ITEMS: Set for 9:00 AM Thursday, April 24, 2014 at the Town Hall Planning Dept. Annex Room.
12. ADJOURNMENT: At 11:14 AM on motion by Ron Russo, seconded by Janice Falcone.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary, Don Smith