

Economic Improvement Commission Minutes

The Economic Improvement Commission (EIC) held a meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at Charlestown Town Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Craig Marr called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.
2. ROLL: Present were Chair Craig Marr, Dominic DellaVolpe, Lorna Persson, Donna Walsh, Victoria Wicks and Town Council Liaison Deb Carney. Absent: Irwin Birnbaum, Jane Glander
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF JULY 23, 2020 - The minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Donna Walsh and seconded by Dominic DellaVolpe.
4. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEBSITE UPDATE - Ms. Heather Paliotta, Chamber Executive Director, previewed the new Chamber website which is expected to be launched before Labor Day. Ms. Paliotta thanked the EIC for supporting the work to update the website.
5. TREASURERS REPORT - Mr. DellaVolpe reported that no expenditures were made from the EIC budget in the past month.
6. PUBLIC COMMENT - Mr. James Lynch asked the Commission to consider supporting the Town's evaluation of the business plan to move his Dunkin' franchise from its current location to a new location on Falcone Lane.
7. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT - Ms. Carney reported that the contract for the town-wide survey was approved by the Town Council and should be launched shortly. The cost of the survey is budgeted at \$74,000.
8. DISCUSSION OF FISCAL 2021 INITIATIVES - Mr. Ed Huttenhower, URI Small Business, offered suggestions for topics his organization could support during the EIC's upcoming Business Forum scheduled for October 22. The time and location of the Forum is to be determined. The Commission members discussed the 2020 Holiday Ramble and agreed that it would not take place in December. A possible date in June 2021 was discussed and will be considered at a future meeting. Town representatives from Parks & Recreation offered suggestions about how the event could be coordinated with other Town events.
9. NEXT MEETING DATE and AGENDA ITEMS - The Commission will meet September 24, 2020 at Town Hall. Agenda topics will include: Planning for the business forum and an update on plans for the Ramble.
10. Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. DellaVolpe at 9:59 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Wicks
Acting Secretary