

SALISBURY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 15, 2023 – 5:30PM (VIA ZOOM)

Present: Janet Graaff, Kitty Kiefer, Carol Sadlon, Ward Belcher, Tom Shachtman and Robert Schaufelberger. Absent: Bruce McEver.

1. **Approval of Agenda. So Moved** by W. Belcher, seconded by K. Kiefer and unanimously **Approved.**
2. **Approval of the Minutes of February 15, 2023.** Under point 3, J. Graaff asked that the last sentence be revised to read: “There was discussion about possible subsidies from the State or NWCOG.” A **Motion to Approve the Minutes of February 15, 2023, as amended**, was made by J. Graaff, seconded by T. Shachtman and unanimously **Approved.**
3. Project and Portfolio Updates
 - K. Kiefer indicated that the questionnaire has been paused until after the meeting next week with Allison Ellis, Frontier Communications. J. Graaff asked to note in the minutes that K. Kiefer is sending Ms. Ellis a draft of the questionnaire that was used in Sharon, for possible comments. T. Shachtman made two points: 1) They would like to learn more from Frontier and 2) Since they are asking the BOS for money to do the mailing of the questionnaire, they want to make sure it is appropriate and necessary, at this time. K. Kiefer and T. Shachtman also talked about doing an in-person survey, if needed. There will be further discussion after the Frontier meeting.
 - R. Schaufelberger had no update on the EV charging project
 - C. Sadlon had no update on the Railroad Street / Academy Street project
 - T. Shachtman mentioned the Railroad Station renovation project in Lakeville and suggested attendance at the meeting on March 18th at the Town Grove.
 - SEDC Mandate – Tabled for future discussion; may be brought up at the next BOS meeting.
4. Public Comment – None
5. How to Track our communications / coordination with other town committees / commissions and the EDC coordinator at NWHillsCOG.

J. Graaff talked about keeping the SEDC members informed about informal meetings, information that they are sharing and gathering data. T. Shachtman suggested bringing forth ideas and being spontaneous, a less formal process. J. Graaff mentioned Emily Hultquist, Assistant Director, NWCOG, as having a regional board of EDC members. There was discussion

about the NWCOG and SEDC interest in it. A Motion to Invite Emily Hultquist to the SEDC meeting on April 19, 2023 was made by K. Kiefer, seconded by T. Shachtman and unanimously Approved.

6. FOIA training video: discussion

J. Graaff summarized the importance of understanding FOIA. R. Schaufelberger mentioned the CT Conference of Municipalities and suggested getting on their mailing list at: <https://www.ccm-ct.org/>.

7. PZC-Colliers charrette and our contribution to the POCD: How to develop a coordinated SEDC response.

J. Graaff talked briefly about the POCD; she noted that the PZC did not have its last planning meeting, so there was no new information about the SEDC section. She will share her drafts of the section, when written, for comments; all agreed on that process.

8. Other Business

T. Shachtman talked about liaison with other types of organizations, such as the Salisbury Association, to talk about collaborative future planning, as a possible central function of this Committee. He has some specific things to consider:

- Short term -- Expanding the 2 main Town events, Fall Festival and the Ski Jumps, by lengthening them by a day or so and providing more activities to keep people in town longer.
- Long term – April 2025 – the 250th anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord, as a time to do a large community event involving other organizations; start planning.
- July 4, 2026 – 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. He suggested the SEDC take the lead for Salisbury and the NW corner. C. Sadlon agreed it would be an excellent idea for tourism and recommended working with the Salisbury Association on it. She pointed out that the marketing has to have structure.

There was further general discussion about having events; people to contact; encouraging people to attend meetings and publicizing them. J. Graaff asked that ideas should be sent to T. Shachtman. C. Sadlon suggested having an outline with a well thought out concept plan, as well as coming up with a format for future projects. W. Belcher suggested meeting the new people at the Lakeville Journal; C. Sadlon mentioned that would be good for marketing, but someone is needed to write press releases; a format is needed.

R. Schaufelberger reminded everyone about the Special Meeting on March 23rd at 5:30pm.

Adjournment. So Moved by J. Graaff, seconded by T. Shachtman and unanimously **Approved.**