

SALISBURY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 17, 2025 – 9:00AM (HYBRID)

Present: Kitty Kiefer, Carol Sadlon, Robert Schaufelberger and Alice Peck. Absent: Adam Higgins.

Attending: David Becker

1. **Approval of Agenda.** K. Kiefer asked to change the order of Items to move Item #5a. to Item #3. The Agenda was **Approved, as Amended.**
2. Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2025 – Tabled to next meeting.
3. New Business \ 5a. David Becker discussing how to build community with and through food. Mr. Becker, who has years of experience in business start-ups and marketing, gave a presentation about a plan for the Salisbury Diner. The actual diner is currently located off of Library Street on a commercially zoned property and has received pre-approval from the Town. The plan is to copy the Phoenicia Diner in New York State; they would provide launch consulting from menu development to recruiting staff. Mr. Becker commented that there is a lot of local support for the diner and noted that this is not so much an investment opportunity, but a community-building experience. Mr. Becker has talked to a number of potential investors, but there was no follow up from them; the goal is to find investors to step up without the expectation of returns – the long term return is community wide. Mr. Becker noted that the base wages would need to be \$20-\$25 per hour. K. Kiefer will ask Patrick Sullivan, from the Lakeville Journal, to take a look at the proposal. C. Sadlon is the contact person for the SEDC and has a one-page proposal document available; it will go on the SEDC webpage.
4. a. EV Charging Developments in the Town – R. Schaufelberger commented that the First Selectman doesn't want to sign off on an agreement without P&Z approval. R. Schaufelberger and K. Kiefer will take the diagrams they have and work on an application.

b. Discuss the tours of the sewer plant – K. Kiefer commented that she did the tour, along with Ward Belcher, and learned a lot. C. Sadlon expressed that it is an amazing resource; it has capacity for a while; and the building needs upgrades. R. Schaufelberger pointed out that the costs need to be known for repairing the pipes on the Lakeville side and the need to make it known to people how these repairs can be addressed. A. Peck commented that there are liners, not total replacement, available. R. Schaufelberger thanked the sewer plant staff for their time.
5. b. Mission Statement from Bill Colgan re: Grassland Dessert Café. The statement will be put on the SEDC webpage.

c. Discussion – C. Sadlon has a list of survey questions which they will narrow down to 6 or so. There may be a special meeting for this project which would include: a list of businesses to contact; the format of the data; and a calendar of who will talk to whom and when. C. Sadlon and K. Kiefer are planning to go to Washington, CT to talk to the EDC staff person there. C. Sadlon will also talk to Carolyn Piccirelli, owner of the recently closed Honeychurch Homes shop. A. Peck commented that her new bookstore has opened and local people are coming in.

6. Public Comment – None

Adjournment. So Moved by R. Schaufelberger, seconded by K. Kiefer, **With All in Favor.**