

Town of Somers  
Economic Development Commission  
P.O. Box 308  
Somers, Connecticut 06071

**EDC Minutes**  
**August 4, 2008**  
Selectmen's Conference Room  
Town Hall

**Call to Order**

Chairman Lou Bachetti called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Attendance**

Members present were Louis Bachetti, Ron Elliott, David Reed, Richard Cheney and Robert Schmidt.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by David Reed and seconded by Robert Schmidt that the minutes of the June meeting be approved without change. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence

The Chairman handed out an article from the Commercial Record which reflected the change of median home prices for the first quarter of 2008. Also reviewed was a posting for a new position in Enfield which heads EDC, Planning departments, Building and Community Development. Lou noted that the town activated its new web site, [www. Somersct.gov](http://www.Somersct.gov) this week. There was also to be a guest this evening but the guest was a no show.

Somers Business Association

Ron Elliott noted that there was nothing new to report from the committee and as such discussion followed concerning changing the model. It was then decided that EDC will take over primary responsibilities and have the committee serve as an adjunct to the EDC. Ron and Lou will contact the committee to explain the re- tooling and attempt to get the committee to attend the next scheduled EDC meeting. The next scheduled "Business After Hours" meeting will be scheduled for late September or early November.

Status of the of Somersville Mill

Lou sent out a letter on behalf of the EDC to the selectmen concerning the safety issues associated with the mill and noted that it will be noted on the agenda and discussed at their next scheduled meeting. The ownership issue of the mill was discussed briefly and it was mentioned that uncertainties as to their involvement and commitment to getting something done with the mill exist.

Somerville Streetscape Update

David Reed stated that discussion with the state Dot is ongoing and any work that involves any part of the state highway will occur at a later date. However he noted that the committee is focusing on making

improvements on town property in the same vicinity and are looking at various projects to undertake in the shorter term.

#### 2009 Business Directory

Lou said that the commission needs to establish a budget for the next issue will be distributed in December 2008. Jeanne Reed will handle the project of soliciting advertising and updating the list of businesses in town beginning in September. Lou will email the commission concerning the advertising rates used last time and solicit opinions as to what they will be for the next issue.

#### EDC Newsletter

It was decided that Maura Gardiner will coordinate the issuance of the trimester newsletter. Lou will email to the commission members the topics he would like to see in the newsletter and each member will contribute at least one write up to the newsletter. The first issue will be mailed before the end of September.

#### Discussion

The Somers Arts and Craft Festival is scheduled for August 31, 2008 from 10:00 until 4:00 Discussion followed as to the EDC's involvement and it was decided that members should attend and solicit vendors for donation to a raffle should the festival committee wish to hold a raffle. It was noted that the Worthington Pond train park will also open on August 31. Lou will set up a time during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August for the commission to view the park. Lou will communicate the date and time to commission members via email.

#### Other business

The issue of signage for the train park was referred to the EDC by way of the town planning office and as such the issue on way finder signs surfaced again. David Reed and Bob Schmidt will set up a meeting with the town planner to review the project of establishing a system of way finder signs throughout town.

#### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Rick Cheney, seconded by Robert Schmidt and was approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 8.50 p. m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ronald L. Elliott, Secretary for the EDC

Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.