

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

**EDC Minutes  
May 4, 2009  
Selectmen's Conference Room  
Town Hall**

**Call to Order**

**Chairman Lou Bachetti called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.**

**Attendance**

**Commissioners in attendance were, Lou Bachetti, David Reed, Maura Gardiner and Bob Schmidt.**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Maura Gardiner and seconded by David Reed that the commission minutes of 4/6/9 be approved without change. Passed unanimously.**

**No Correspondence**

**Open Space Zoning Regulations**

**The commissioners held a discussion on the recently modified open space regulations. By consensus the commission was of the opinion that these new regulations do not conflict with economic development activity.**

### **Somersville Streetscape**

David Reed reported that the streetscape committee will be meeting again this week. Engineering drawings have been completed and the committee is awaiting a resolution by the selectmen followed by a meeting with the DOT to access funds and begin this project.

### **2009 Business Directory**

Lou Bachetti reported the business directory has been completed and mailed to all residents. He commended David Reed for managing the project during his absence and especially to Jeanne Reed for a terrific job in completing the project.

### **EDC Business Newsletter**

Maura Gardiner will manage the next newsletter. The lead article will be on the Somersville Streetscape. The newsletter will also include a Somers labor market analysis. Commissioners writing articles should get them to Maura in the next 2 weeks.

### **Way-Finder Signs**

Bob Schmidt recommended that 8 generic signs and 4 business district signs are essential to the plan. Bob Schmidt and Rick Cheney will finalize the sign wording and write up the final plan. They will then meet with the town planner and other appropriate officials to implement the plan.

### **Unemployment Statistics**

David Reed presented labor department unemployment data. The current state unemployment rate is 7.8% and the national rate is 9.0%. The Somers unemployment rate is 7.1%. Of the Somers work force of 4,709, 332 are currently unemployed.

**After-Hours Networking**

After discussion the commission is recommending that Rick Cheney proceed with scheduling a spring “after-hours” networking meeting.

**EDC Activities Update**

Lou Bachetti distributed the business report. The report lists new businesses, relocations and available industrial and retail properties.

**Other Business**

Maura Gardiner will print business cards for EDC commissioners. There will be 50 cards for each commission member.

Motion to adjourn was made by David Reed, seconded by Bob Schmidt and was approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:40 p.m..

Respectfully submitted by,

Lou Bachetti, filling in for secretary Ron Elliott

Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.