



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
July 13, 2023, 5:00pm via Zoom
MINUTES**

Present: Libby Borden, Sue Frisch, Kate Johnson, Marie Lowe, Christal Preszler, Brett Robbins,
Michael Selleck, Robert Whipple
Absent: Trish Deans, Larry Hannafin, Tom McGowan, Jon Riedeman,
Guest: Ruth Melville

Libby Borden called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

The minutes of the June 8, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

The EDC has invited Ann DeCerbo and the Board of Education to its August meeting to be held at Town Hall.

Libby reported that the EDC ended its 2022-2023 budget with a balance of just over \$100.

She reminded everyone that the EDC has three recurring items for its current budget: WIN for \$2,000, Community Association for \$500, and the Hub membership. WIN is planning to ask for its contribution soon.

Marie reported that the Community Association is planning to have an event in early September to celebrate Jon Riedeman's Owl. Rails to Trails received a \$400K grant.

The June 27th businesses meeting held at the Hub was a success. There were 30 people in attendance and more that wanted to come but couldn't make it that evening. The EDC will follow up with a letter to all interested businesses and a plan to hold further forums.

Kate reported that the blasting permitting for the Haystack Woods is complete.

Friday Nights on the Village Green are going well, despite the weather

There will be two events on the Plaza: July 22 and August 26.

The town is expecting a City Meadow plan from Michael Nadeau sometime in July.

The Norfolk Chamber Music Festival is off to an excellent start despite ongoing construction distractions.

The WIN committee is working hard to prepare for the August WIN weekend, August 4-6. Sue says that they still need music on Sunday for the Plaza.

The EDC voted to spend \$200 on Please Slow Down signs and distribute them throughout the town.

There was no real estate report as Tom was absent but Libby wanted to emphasize the need for new housing in the town's water and sewer districts.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35.

Michael and Libby



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
PO Box 592
Norfolk, CT 06058**

June 1, 2023

Dear Norfolk Business Owner,

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) of Norfolk is interested in hearing from you. Over the past few years, our Commission has worked closely with the town government, local associations and foundations, Yale University, and other nonprofit groups to sustain and improve Norfolk.

This year, we established a new committee that is focused on supporting our local businesses. We are reaching out to you to learn more about your needs as a small business owner and start a dialogue about how we can serve you. Our team has previously tackled projects related to marketing and branding in Norfolk as well as initiatives that amplify the voices of key constituent groups. We are eager to hear more about what concerns you and your community and work together to grow businesses in Norfolk.

With this in mind, we would like to form a Business Community Committee to create a forum for business leaders to discuss issues and concerns facing the business community. The EDC will host the first gathering of this forum at the **Norfolk Hub on Tuesday, June 27th at 7:00 PM**. We plan to discuss the Committee's charter and begin soliciting feedback on key projects and initiatives.

Our team has carefully reviewed the list of local businesses and we believe your presence is crucial at this event. We hope to see you there, and we encourage you to come ready to talk about what you see as the most important issue your business faces. Please let us know by e-mail if you are able to attend.

Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Libby Borden Co-chair EDC
Libbyg@borden.com

Michael Selleck, Co-chair EDC
mks2548@gmail.com

P.S. We are looking for a few business owners to join the leadership team of the Business Community Committee. Please let us know if you are interested.