



Town of Dighton
Development and Industrial Commission
979 Somerset Avenue
Dighton, MA 02715
Tel: (508) 669-6431

MINUTES FOR August 22, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

PRESENT: Rafael Delfin, Joseph Figueiredo, Daniel Higgins, Darlene Araujo, Jon Geggatt, Michael Mullen

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Update on business needs survey from SRPEDD.

The commission reviewed the results of the online Town business needs survey. The survey has been available for five days and has had 66 responses to date. October was proposed for the first of two follow up in person public forums to discuss the survey results, pending availability of the Old Town Hall. Dan Higgins will check with the Selectmens Office on available dates.

2. Discuss agricultural business needs.

At the July meeting a question was raised about the potential of the Town making use of Land Trusts to preserve available agricultural land. Dan Higgins reported that the suggestion was forwarded to the Open Space Committee.

Per Darlene Araujo, an existing farm on Main St has received a purchase offer from a Rehoboth resident looking to establish a 15 acre hay farm. The seller is amenable to the sale and the buyer is working to secure financing.

3. Progress report on Zeneca site

Zeneca has filed an ANRAD (Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation) with the Conservation Commission for the Zeneca owned property running from Main St to Pleasant St, in preparation for renewed efforts to remediate ground contamination. Per Town Administrator Mullen it is too early to know whether the property would be available for commercial use at some point in the future, but this the first step to making that happen. Zeneca representatives will also be attending a September Selectmens meeting to further layout their plans.

4. Discuss any new businesses interests in town

The opening for ENL Training was delayed due to Planning Board approval regarding available parking but a special Planning Board meeting is to be held on August 30th to resolve the issue and hopefully provide final sign-off.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. **Planning for Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce Dighton/Berkley business networking event Sept 21st**

The Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce has started advertising on their web site and mailed postcards to all known Dighton businesses. The event will be advertised on the Town website beginning next week, followed by in person visits by Jon Geggatt and Dan Higgins driving around town and stopping at businesses to further promote it. The promotional code allowing free admission to Dighton businesses has been established and will be made available going forward.

The Chamber representatives will be doing a walkthrough next week with the staff at the Bristol County Agricultural High School to review room layout, catering, etc.

Town Administrator Mullen is checking on costs to hire a videographer to produce footage of the event that can be used in the future for any marketing material that may be produced.

6. **Purchase of DDIC business cards**

Motion made by Joseph Figueiredo to buy DDIC business cards for interested members for a cost not to exceed \$30. Second Jon Geggatt.

Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

PUBLIC INPUT: none

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Joseph Figueiredo to approve the meeting minutes for July 25 2022. Second Rafael Delfin.

Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING:

Motion made by Joseph Figueiredo to set next meeting for Sep 26 at 6pm. Second Rafael Delfin.

Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Joseph Figueiredo to adjourn meeting. Second Rafael Delfin. Meeting adjourned 6:54pm

Motion passed unanimously.