

Town of Walkersville
Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes

September 03, 2015

Attendees: Ben Douds, Ray Soderberg, Clara Winch and Commissioner Gary Baker
7:35 the meeting was called to order by Ben Douds.

No minutes were approved as they were not available from the last meeting of 08/20/15

Farmers Market issues and discussion

- Clara brought up that she noticed that the feather banners were not being placed prior to the last two(2) Farmers Markets. Ray said that the reason for this was that the ground was too hard for insertion due to the lack of precipitation.
- It was also noticed that vendors were setting up BEFORE the 3PM start time. Ray said that he would talk to the vendors regarding this issue.
- It was asked if Dawn had run FB ads for the Market. Both Ben and Clara confirmed this had been completed.
- Some concern was voiced regarding cars in the parking lot now that school is back in session.
- Thoughts of dividing the parking lot in half with regards to cone placement.

Thoughts for next year:

- We should think about what we will do for Fall 2016 as we continue to grow.

Shop Walkersville Brochure

- Ray is making inquiries regarding the facilitation of a graphic artist.
- Ray is awaiting a listing from Dawn of WBPA graphic artists in their membership.
- Discussed posting on Facebook asking for business information for those in the incorporated town of Walkersville; as well as, channel 99 & the Woodsboro/Walkersville Times. Suggest to include wording such as "If you are in the incorporated town of Walkersville and would like to be included on our visitor and business guide, please email your information to Walkersvilleedc@gmail.com by 12/31/2015 to be listed.

Committee Budget.

- Since Commissioner Baker pulled the portion of town regulation regarding our committee's capacity to make monetary decisions, and we found that we as a committee have no authority – we as a committee need clarification as to what decisions we are able to make and what protocol we are to follow when making presentation to the Commissioners and the Burgess for approval of monetary needs?

Regarding the Crime meeting to be held 09/09/15

- Ray is concerned about wait-time issues with the current trooper program. He, as a businessman has had additional vandalism issues. He is concerned as to how this issue will impact all businesses in Walkersville.

Ray will bring in a letter in regards to a non-profit & do a presentation the first meeting in October.

Committee was pleased with Financial Statements provided by the Town Manager. But for a more specific, practical purpose, Clara will contact Gloria, Town Manager to see if the committee can receive monthly, a General Ledger account transaction list to show the committee's budget and the expenses allocated to that budget so that the committee is clear on what portion of the budget has been allocated and what portion remains available to expend.

Committee would like to understand the status of the WEDC's proposed amendment to code regarding commercial vacancy and blight issue within the town code. What was the disposition of this proposal by the Planning and Zoning Commission? And is anything further required of the WEDC regarding this issue?

Thoughts for the New Year, 2016:

Ray - Car Show at Heritage Farm Park

Clara – Festival of Lights at Heritage Farm Park

Ray – Food Truck Festival

It was suggested that Ben draft a letter to Patrick regarding his attendance to the monthly meetings on behalf of the commission. This is still an open item.

Meeting adjourned: 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted: Clara Winch, vice chairman