

Town of Fair Haven
Economic Development Committee & Downtown Partnership
March 11, 2025 – Regular Meeting
Minutes

Members Present: Glen Traverse, Ceil Hunt, Judi Sutherland, Laura Pedroni, Deborah Laiacona, Mike Pavelec (via zoom), Town Manager Joe Gunter

Guest: Ethan Pepin

Call to Order

Glen Traverse, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Review the Agenda

Under New Business, a discussion of EDC appointments was added. The Agenda was approved as changed by Ms. Hunt, seconded by Ms. Laiacona and passed.

Review the Minutes of February 4, 2025

Ms. Hunt motioned to accept the Minutes as written and Mr. Traverse seconded. The motion passed.

Name Change

The Economic Development Committee has hereby changed the name to Economic Development Committee & Downtown Partnership. Ms. Laiacona moved to approve the change and Ms. Pedroni seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

IBC Updates

The wreaths are still up on the light poles, as the weather has been too cold and icy to remove them. The committee has discussed making giant snowflakes for pole decorations because they can remain on the poles through winter and used every year. Ms. Laiacona expressed a preference for live wreaths and assured there are people to install and remove. Mike Doran wants to be a part of decorating the park. It was suggested that Ms. Deborah Laiacona, Mr. Art Laiacona, Mr. Mike Doran and Mr. Reece deCastro meet to develop a plan for winter decorations.

The Community Bulletin Board Project

The new community bulletin board has arrived and will be installed by the DPW when the ground thaws.

EDC Newsletter

The monthly EDC newsletter is getting a lot of exposure and positive feedback.

You Are Here Map for Downtown

Mr. Ethan Pepin brought in the final version of the map for downtown. It is very well done and we are eager to have it installed May 1st.

Fair Haven Blooms

Ms. Pedroni presented an update of a new annual event which will be May 3rd. It is a beautification project for our town. Business owners, churches, organizations and members of our community are asked to sponsor planters and take care of the plants. She will be seeking donations, both monetary as

well as plants, soil, mulch and other needed supplies. This annual event will be scheduled on the first Saturday in May.

Downtown Business Updates

Five of our businesses attended the first meeting to gather enthusiasm to vitalize our town.

- Fair Haven Friends Pass. This card will cost \$5 per year and will provide a discount on food or merchandise at participating businesses. There will be a sticker in the window of those who participate.
- Scotch Hill Brewing will host its second annual fundraiser for Slate Valley Cares on Saturday, March 22nd from 4-6pm. Join the fun for this worthy cause.
- Increase police presence in the alley behind Main Street businesses

Ordinance for Property Appearance & Maintenance

It has been reported that there is a rodent infestation in the Main Street trash cans due to disposal of personal garbage. These trash cans are for trash only. Garbage is defined as wasted or spoiled food from a kitchen or household.

EDC Bylaws Update for Downtown Designation

In our continued effort to attain a Downtown Designation, it is necessary to update our Bylaws. Work has begun on this.

New Business

EDC Catalog of Possible Funding Opportunities for Businesses

To be referred to CEDRR.

The Town Website

To be discussed at next meeting.

EDC Appointments

To be discussed further.

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 1, 2025 at 5:00pm.

Adjourn

Mr. Traverse motioned to adjourn, Ms. Sutherland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Sutherland