



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

MINUTES FOR July 24, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6pm.

PRESENT: Rafael Delfin, Laura Smith, Dan Higgins, Leonard Hull, Joe Figueiredo, John Geggatt

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discuss/Review/Act on any new business interests in town.**
No new businesses

OLD BUSINESS:

2. **Discuss/Review/Act regarding Cable Business Spotlight**

Paul Reynolds and Laura Medeiros (Cable Commission) held the first video recording on Saturday July 15th. It was for Energy No Limits (ENL) Fitness on Williams St. The taping was very successful and should be available on Channel 9/YouTube within a few weeks. We have received a new request from Under The Sun and that taping will be scheduled once a day/time can be found that is convenient for everyone.

3. **Discuss/Review/Act September Firecracker Festival**

We will be present at the Firecracker Festival and asking businesses to provide business cards or information sheets to be displayed and made available to visitors. Dan Higgins will send out an email to all Dighton Businesses for which emails are known as well as post to Social Media.

4. **Discuss/Review/Act on new member for open DDIC position**

There is still an open at-large position available. Leonard Hull will mention this again in the Announcements at the next Selectmen's meeting.

5. **Discuss/Review/Act any on advertising and sponsorship for 2nd Annual Business Networking Event Oct 3,2023**

A suggestion was made to add a sign on the corner of Center St to advertise the event. Leonard Hull will arrange for the sign once the verbiage is provided.

Dan Higgins will send out an email to all Dighton Businesses for which emails are known as well as post to Social Media. Laura Smith made a suggestion to create an online form that businesses can complete if they are interested in any of the upcoming events/services being offered. Dan Higgins will inquire at the Selectmen's office to see what is possible.

6. Discuss/Review/Act on status of Mendoza Farm on Elm St

The 13 acre property on Elm Street (known as Mendoza Farm) has been advertised online for approximately six months. Dan Higgins asked if there was anything that the Town could do to assist with getting it back to a working farm? Laura Smith's suggestion is that this is really under the purview of the Dighton Agricultural Commission to reach out to farmers in the community to make them aware that the property is available. SEMAP (Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership) has also listed the property.

A general discussion was held about actions taken in other Towns to encourage farming, including the use of Land Trusts or the leasing of public lands.

7. Discuss updates regarding drone videography project.

The vendor received a request from one of the business owners whose property we are using if they could receive a copy of the video footage. The vendor is requesting if we are amenable to that, since she is working at the request of the Town and the footage is for the Town's use. No vote was taken but it was agreed that there was no issue with the video footage being shared.

CORRESPONDANCE: none

PUBLIC INPUT: Laura Smith is a member of the Southcoast Food Policy Council Community Advisory Board. They have a challenge coming up to educate the Southcoast community about the importance of eating local. Laura provided the information about how to register online at: <https://www.marioninstitute.org/programs/sfpc/>

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Motion made by Joe Figueiredo to approve the meeting minutes of June 26th 2023. Second Jon Geggatt.

Motion passed unanimously.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

Motion made by Joe Figueiredo to set the next meeting date as August 28th at 6pm. Second Rafael Delfin.

Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Joe Figueiredo to adjourn the meeting at 7:03pm. Second Rafael Delfin.

Motion passed unanimously.