

Economic Development Committee August 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m. Bridgeville Town Hall & Zoom Minutes

I. Attending: Sue Grenier, Mike Szczechura, Christine Correia (Zoom), Ralph Root.

Absent: Richard Grinnell, Suzanne Farris

Also Attending: Bethany DeBussy

II. Approval of Minutes: May 8, 2023

III. EDC Financials: None.

- IV. Farm to Table Update: The event is going to be held at the Sugar Beet Market. Time is from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There are 200 tickets available. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Ralph mentioned he hadn't seen any advertisement at Heritage Shores. Bethany explained that Heritage Shores didn't want it to sell out too quickly if it was advertised there early. That way the general public could buy first. Bethany said there would be a link going up on August 18th for purchases online. Sue questioned about other advertising other than Facebook. Bethany said yes there has been radio coverage, social media, chamber coverage and a press release going to papers. Mike said the tickets are \$65. Mike went over the menu, who is providing the various food items and mentioned that there will be live music. Mike said it has all been coming together really nicely. Mike said there will be one more meeting on September 12th. The proceeds of the Farm to Table will be split between the Woodbridge FFA Scholarships and the Bridgeville Economic Development Committee. Mike went through the details for the night and who will be speaking at the event as well. Sue questioned if the Woodbridge students will be helping to cleanup after the event. Mike made a note to ask Woodbridge FFA. Ralph questioned about the time and if 8:00 is too soon for it to end. Sue questioned if you can go back for seconds. Bethany and Mike said yes because it's a buffet style. Sue did question what will happen to any food that is leftover. Mike is going to inquire about that. Bethany said there are places to donate.
- V. Partnering with Sussex County: Bethany explained this was a discussion we had a few meetings back trying to partner with other Economic Development Committees. To form a partnership to do more Economic Development related things not on our own, if they can help us. Bethany said she has been doing all-calls to other Towns. Bethany has asked these other Towns if they have a EDC and who is the contact. To see if they can share information and work together with us. Bethany said she will let us know when that

information comes in. Richard was going to reach out to Sussex County but Bethany couldn't verify at this meeting if he had already done that. The goal of reaching out to other EDC or Sussex County is to get ideas or start projects that we aren't thinking of. Bethany said Seaford is a good example. That it would be networking and helpful to us to create an alliance with other local Economic Development Committees.

- VI. Old Police Station: Bethany said she has ideas for the building. We have the money to repair it and it will go quickly. Going to try to get approval for emergency repairs. We can apply for more funding but to get it to a usable space first. A structural engineer has been in to evaluate the issues we know that exist. Ralph asked if it was checked for asbestos and Bethany thinks there is a report that it was done. She will check for that report. The back half of the building will need to be rebuilt. That demolition of the back would cost less than trying to repair the back part. The back part of the building is the newer part.
- VII. New Business: None.
- VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Correia, Transcriptionist