

Minutes

Copake Economic Development Advisory Committee
Wednesday, July 29, 2020, 4pm
via Zoom

Present: Tom Goldsworthy, Chair; Deb Cohen; Rich Lee; Roberta Roll; Austin Urban, Richard Wolf (Town Board Liaison)

Absent: Julie Cohen, Kevin Davis

Minutes from the July 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

Survey of Local Businesses – The committee agreed to survey local businesses to learn more about their needs and desires as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Rich Lee kindly agreed to create the survey with input from all CEDAC members. The survey will be sent to Copake businesses who have previously expressed interest in forming a business alliance, as well as to any other Copake businesses we can identify. Each member of the committee will submit five questions for inclusion in the survey.

New Businesses for Copake – the Committee considered the different types of businesses it might help bring to Copake. The lengthy discussion included consideration of the following kinds of businesses (though this is by no means an exclusive or exhaustive list):

1. Pharmacy/Dispensary in cooperation with the Urgent Care Center.
2. Recreation, agriculture, value added food products, arts.
3. Farming and all of the related businesses (food production, ag education, etc.).
4. Seasonal festivals and special events that would appeal to non-residents who might move to Copake as a result of positive exposure to the town. It was noted that it is important to obtain contact information whenever possible from visitors.
5. Businesses that offer employment opportunities.

Copake Comprehensive Plan - It was noted that our projects will be informed by the comp plan and must be aligned with the comp plan.

Tom Goldsworthy asked that each member propose five key initiatives for the CEDAC which collected together could be considered at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 4pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Cohen