

**HYDE PARK JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 7, 2014**

*All minutes are draft until approved by the EDB:  
Please check future minutes for the approval of these minutes.*

Members Present: Greg Paus (GP); Charlie Aronovici (CA)  
Members Absent: David Gagnier (DG)  
Staff: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator (RR); Carol Robertson (CR)  
Guests: Tricia Follert, Morristown Community Development Coordinator

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CA opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Public Comment** – No members of the public were present.
2. **Tricia Follert, Morristown Community Development Coordinator** - Tricia provided the Board with her experiences working on community and economic development. She encouraged the town and village to work together on local as regional outreach efforts, including:
  - Multi-activity events so visitors have more than one thing to attend and consider staying over in local B&B's, etc.
  - Visioning exercises with neighborhoods is very helpful to identify needs and opportunities.
  - Zoning amendments should be as business friendly and investor friendly as possible and regulatory changes in Morristown have resulted in a great amount of reinvestment
  - If the Village wants to get the word out on being “open for business”, that message needs to be repeated often
  - Morristown and Hyde Park, possible Johnson, could join forces and work on regional events to attract more visitors; such as 5K runs, food and music events and the Adirondack Chair project which started in the Morrisville business area. Tricia will provide more information on the details of the Chair-art-able art project.
  - Moving residential units to second floors along Main St could help create the business store fronts on the first floor to make the properties more valuable and create the vitality of mixed uses
  - Reaching out to major players in the local business community; which is not only Hyde Park, but also businesses in Morristown and Stowe. Those businesses have customers from Hyde Park, so financial support for Hyde Park events does not need to come only from Hyde Park businesses
  - Local business efforts should make strong connections with the local community groups such as Community Circle, Community Collaborative and other local or regional community groups.
3. **Minutes** – Motion by GP to approve the 12/03/2013 minutes as written. Seconded by CA. Voting: 2 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.
4. **Next Steps and Assignments – Next Meeting February 5, 2014 – 5:00 p.m.**
  - CA will contact representatives from the Catholic Church about the potential sale of the church and parish hall on West Main St which could be used as a shared kitchen facility for small food businesses.
  - GP, CA and CR will meet with Carl Bohlen before January 30, 2014.
5. **Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Rodjenski