

WEDC MEETING MINUTES Approved
FRIDAY July 11, 2014

Present: Chairman R. Valentine, Members: J. Colburn, , B. Higgins, C. Roberts, M. Oldenberg, A. Letizio, E. Gallagher, B. Breton, D. Morris (could be temporary member for Chamber)

Excused: P. Gosselin

Admin Staff: L. Scott

Chairman Valentine opened the meeting at 7:38am with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Valentine introduced the members of the WEDC and welcomed newest members: C. Roberts, B. Higgins.

VOTED: On motion made (M. Oldenberg) seconded (C. Roberts), the committee approved the meeting minutes from July 11, 2014 6-0-3. Announcement made that Bev Donovan has retired from EDC, chamber seat is currently vacant as well as one other seat which is open to the public (appointed by Town Selectman) Laura happy to chat with candidates. A Motion (B. Breton) to appoint C. Roberts to secretary, seconded (A. Letizio) 9-0-0. Motion (A. Letizio) to appoint E. Gallagher as Vice Chair, seconded (B. Higgins) 9-0-0. Motion (B. Higgins) to appoint R. Valentine as chair, seconded (M. Oldenberg) 9-0-0

Committee Reports:

Community Development – Laura Scott – Website is being updated for August & final draft of brochure will be ready. Laura also discussed the 6 month visitation program – questions commonly discussed: 1) Sign Ordinance 2) Taxes to high 3) Want more support from the community & town. Business owners also discussed the want for the community and town to use their services more frequently or at least get to quote more work. Laura also mentioned that sign ordinances have changed. **All comments offered by business owners were unsolicited.**

There will be 3 fall networking events in the fall hosted by Community Development and the Chamber of Commerce. There is an event at the Common man on August 19th hosted by the Derry/Londonderry Chamber, it will be a breakfast and panel discussion addressing various topics existing and new businesses might have. There is a Master Plan Visioning Workshop Wednesday 7/16/14 - 7pm-9pm. There will be 6 areas of discussion one being Economic Development. The sessions will not be run by anyone from the EDC as the Town

doesn't want any leading questions and wanted folks in the community to feel comfortable giving their feedback. The Planning Board has a meeting on August 30th to go over the results of the public survey as well as working with the results of the breakout sessions. Planning commission will be analyzing data. Al asked the questions are geographic controls in place and the answer was yes they are in place. They will also be discussing the results of the North Eastern survey which was a questionnaire filled out by the Citizens of Windham. Planning Board is focusing on Elderly Housing ordinance and the expansion of the Watershed ordinance. A lot of discussion about the watershed ordinance and what defines this and has the actual existing ordinances been successful in what they were intended to accomplish and have there been any unintended consequences? Bruce & Ed suggested that perhaps we should do a study of the ordinances that are in place today and evaluate whether they have achieved the original intent and to test whether there have been unintended consequences. Comment was also made that a 3rd party should do the evaluation so it remains unbiased.

TRC: Jim Colburn – last meeting was cancelled so no new updates

Discussion of EDC Presentation to Planning Board last Wednesday:

Ralph made presentation to planning board about being responsive to the needs of our citizens while helping balance the tax base. Al asked the question of how it was received. Bob attended the meeting and commented that there may be some preconceived notions but the planning board seemed to be split on the idea of economic development. Bruce also had a chance to view the recorded meeting and added comments which were in line with Bob's. Ralph mentioned Bedford's Performance Zoning as being a constructive idea. It was also mentioned that it seems that the same citizen's have been attending these meetings for the past 11 years. We want to be sure the ENTIRE VOICE of the community is heard, not just a select few. The bottom line is we want what is best for our community and want to hear the voice of our community when it comes to the development of our Town.

Strategic Planning: E. Gallagher, discussed some of the suggested changes to the current strategic plan. We are using the old and updating it with language that reflects the citizen's of Windham and their wants and needs. We feel there are 4 pillars: 1) Encourage Outreach 2) Balance Tax Base 3) Encourage New Businesses 4) Citizen's quality of life consistent with our town motto. Next meeting July 18th

Land Use: A. Letizio, looking at corridors of undeveloped land and discussing what may have been obstacles in their development. Next meeting on July 23rd which will be a field trip to Market Street in Lynnfield, MA to look at how this has

been developed by the community. Al says that we have some undeveloped land that could potentially work with an idea like this which could immensely improve the quality of family life while helping to balance the tax base. They will meet at community development in Windham and carpool to Lynnfield, MA

Chamber – D. Morris – Updates to Website are being done. Chamber is trying to schedule an event with Governor Hassan. Chamber has also been trying to educate on the route 93 project specific to exit 2.

Infrastructure – Ralph – A Pennichuck water line is being extended northerly on Mammoth Rd. up to the 111//128 intersection. This project will be funded by DES wastewater monies, but only up to an 8” pipe size. Pennichuck is likely to fund an upsize of the pipe to 12”. There are only a couple of DES formalities prior to final approval. Installation is expected in 2015. This line will turn the corner and run easterly, as far as Braemar Woods Condos, so that they may hook up. There is the possibility that the water line could be further extended easterly to Exit 3. PER
Next Meeting 7/22/14

Motion to Adjourn, J. Colburn seconded M. Oldenberg. **Meeting Adjourned at 9:06am**

9-0-0