

Meet the members of the Windham Economic Development Committee

The Windham Economic Development committee was established as a Town Committee in April of 2010 by the Board of Selectmen. It exists to enhance the vitality of the local economy. The WEDC is comprised of 11 members, 8 as appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the remaining 3 are Ex-Officio members of the current Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, and Chamber of Commerce appointed annually by their respective boards. The members who serve on the committee volunteer their time and are extremely passionate about the community and fulfilling the spirit of our Town's motto: **Old Values, New Horizons**. Here is a look at some of the current members of the WEDC:

Ralph Valentine: Ralph has resided in Windham since 1996, served on the recreation committee and WEDC, both of which he served as chair. He is a commercial real estate consultant in Londonderry, NH and has worked full time in the real estate business since 1986. Ralph joined the committee to volunteer his experience as a commercial real estate broker. He is passionate about easing the tax

burden of our residents and is committed to planned economic development to help broaden the tax base. **Michael Oldenburg:** Mike has resided in Windham for 36 years, he is retired from General Electric after serving almost 40 years. His last position was Aircraft Engine Executive Leader for CF34 Manufacturing Programs. He joined the WEDC with a desire to help develop a plan to reduce the residential tax burden. He is passionate about creating a better balance of residential and commercial tax burden while also maintaining Windham's quality of life and meeting the desires of its residents.

Robert Higgins: Bob has resided in Windham with his wife Jane and 3 children for the past 18 years. He has been a high technology sales executive for over 20 years and currently works for Oracle, he has a BBA in finance and an MBA. The reason Bob joined the WEDC is after spending many years serving the community through Windham's youth baseball and basketball programs, he was looking for another way to serve the community. He wants to continue to see our conservation land, lakes and ponds preserved while providing superior academics and school facilities for children. He feels the residents can't continue to pay increasing property taxes to achieve the goals of our Master Plan. Bob feels that responsible commercial growth can provide community/lifestyle centers that will contribute to the tax base while reducing the burden to residents.

Donna Morris: Donna is a resident of Salem, NH she acts as the Chamber of Commerce Liaison to the WEDC. Donna is President of the Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce and is extremely passionate about our community as well as the other local surrounding communities. She is an advocate of promoting planned economic growth of Windham as well as the other communities making up the Greater Salem Chamber. Donna became involved in the WEDC to support the economic development of Windham that's in alignment with the desires of Windham residents and the Master Plan.

Charlie Roberts: Charlie serves as Secretary to the WEDC and has resided in Windham for the past 9 years with his wife Melissa and 2 children. He has been in the Financial Services industry for over 17 years and currently is President and Owner of Indian Rock Financial Group, Inc. which is also located in Windham, NH. Charlie joined the WEDC because he had a strong desire to serve the local community. He is passionate about working to improve the quality of life for residents and the children of our community. Charlie feels that planned commercial economic development will help ease the tax burden of residents while allowing for continued improvement to our schools, education programs and local cultural capital.

Please stay tuned for our next communication which will introduce the remaining 6 members!

The WEDC is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and easing the tax burden of our residents. We invite you to visit us online at: www.windhamnewhampshire.com/committees/economic-development-committee

