



Economic Development Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Committee members in attendance:

Charlie Albano – Chair
Christine Frost – Citizen at Large
Michael Amaral- Conservation Com Rep
Ginger Marsh-Sugar River Bank/Business Rep.
Joe Mendola – School Board
Peter Anderson - Planning Board Rep

Members Absent:

Darryl Parker- Schoodacs/Business Rep

Others Present: Ed Mical, Rick Davies

1. Meeting With Selectboard

A. Charlie was provided with two dates to meet with the Selectboard to present the Committee's report, April 25 and April 11. Charlie can only make the April 25th Selectboard meeting and encouraged the Committee members to attend as well.

2. State Conference on Tourism

A. Charlie plans on attending the conference on April 18 located at the Grappone Center, he encouraged others to attend as well.

3. Meeting Schedule & Meeting with the Selectboard

A. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, beginning at 6:00 pm, located at Sugar River Bank. Michael said he was under the assumption that this Committee's work sort of culminated with the delivery of the report and perhaps a different Advisory Committee would be established. Charlie said the Committee also needs to talk about who would like to be reappointed, originally the appointment was for 1 year. Charlie asked if the Committee should wait to hear back from the Selectmen before scheduling another meeting. The Committee decided to keep the meeting date.

B. When Charlie meets with the Selectboard he will ask them about the nominating process for the Committee and if they want a Committee with 12 members on it with the current members on the Committee as well.

4. Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from February 21 were accepted by the Committee.

5. Report to the Selectboard

A. The Committee reviewed the report and provided some changes.

B. Peter reported the Planning Board is trying to arrange a meeting with the Department of Transportation to have a joint meeting with the Economic Development Advisory Committee regarding Exit 9. Peter said he interviewed each of the 4 people that tried to develop at Exit 9 and it became clear to Peter that there was a lack of understanding of the rules and regulations regarding development at Exit 9.

C. Christine explained Complete Streets which is taking all users into account when working on a street. All users are bikes, pedestrians etc. not just vehicles.

D. Charlie will incorporate the changes the Committee suggested to the report for the Selectmen.

6. Next Step

- A. Charlie talked about after the Selectmen say OK and continue, how is the work approached for the website, tourism etc. Christine said the first meeting with additional new members should be an overview.
- B. How will the work be approached? Sub-committees to work on the website, survey etc. to report back to the EDAC. A member from the EDAC will sit on a sub-committee as well for guidance.
- C. Who will choose the Committee members? Charlie said the EDAC can make suggestions. Michael suggested a member from the farming community, someone from a large and small business, someone from tourism, home business, known townspeople, younger generation. There is concern about actually getting more members to commit. The Committee agrees the make up of the Committee should be a blend.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned around 7:20 pm.

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen