



TOWN OF WESTFORD
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
TOWN HALL
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Meeting Minutes
Economic Development Committee
Thursday, January 15, 2015
Town Hall, Main Conference Room, 2nd Floor

Attending: Tom Barry (Chairman,) Tom West, Andrew Stern, Bill Nussbum, Ron Caterino, Eli Demetri, and Jodi Ross.

The meeting came to order at 8:15 A.M.

Administrative items:

The minutes of the December 18, 2014 meeting were approved with two abstentions.

Tom Barry noted that Ron Caterino would be acting as chair for the February meeting and Bill Nussbum would be acting as chair for the March meeting.

12 North Main Street:

Eli Demetri provided an update on the North Main task force.

Jodi noted that Mass Development has money available for site development which would enable the town to continue with environmental contamination assessment and also the actual clean-up work under a grant. She noted that it is her understanding that in order to qualify for the money the development must be for job creation or residential rental purposes.

Permitting guide:

The Board of Health has raised questions about updating the guide particularly in light of new proposed regulations concerning hazardous materials. If the regulations are approved, Jodi suggested that the EDC will ask the Board of Health to notify affected businesses.

The committee discussed options for updating the permitting guide. It was decided that updates could be made relatively easily to the materials on the website and that a printed addendum could be made available in small numbers for handout with the guides upon request.

COSTAR available space program:

Jodi noted that the grant had been eliminated under recent state budget cuts, however money remains from fiscal year 14 and she is checking to see if we can use it.

Village meeting:

The committee felt that the Forge Village meeting had been very positive. Chris Kluchman had taken notes and Tom will review to decide on action items. Jodi Ross is also reviewing the notes and will forward updates to Tom on any action items that she can.

Bill Nussbum suggested the committee start planning for further village meetings. The committee decided to meet with Graniteville in May and Nabnasset in the fall. Jodi Ross provided some contacts for follow-up.

EDSAT:

Ron Caterino stated that the EDSAT project was on hold waiting for the DLTA VIII grant money, which is expected imminently.. Jodi Ross will discuss the process at her monthly departmental meeting as their cooperation will be necessary to respond meaningfully to the EDSAT questions.

EDC work plan for 2015:

Tom Barry presented the work plan to the board of selectmen on January 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Ron Caterino
Economic Development Committee
Acting chair