



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Windham Economic Development Committee
WEDC
Meeting Minutes
Friday, June 14, 2013

Present: Chairman, Paul Gosselin; Members: Jim Coburn, Dianne Connolly, Susan Denopolis, Bev Donovan, Al Letizio, Michael Oldenburg, R. Valentine, Sy Wrenn, Jay Yennaco

Excused: S. D'Angelo

Admin Staff: Laura Scott

Absent: K. DiFruscia,

Chairman Gosselin opened the meeting at 8:33 with the Pledge of Allegiance. He then proceeded to introduce and to welcome the new members of the WEDC.

VOTED: On motion made (R. Valentine) and seconded (S. Wrenn), the committee approved the minutes of the May meeting with one clarification. 5-0-5 (Abstaining: J. Coburn, A. Letizio, S. Denopolis, M. Oldenburg, J. Yennaco).

Revisit: Chairman Gosselin led a brief discussion on the Route 111 / 111A traffic light issue, noting the WEDC's discussion with the Planning Board. All agreed that a continuation of the conversation would be beneficial to all impacted. Ms Scott noted that she would inform the WEDC when the BOS met with DOT to further discuss.

Updates:

Planning Board: S. Wrenn: Certified sites program still not resolved; WEDC will continue to be asked for participation on appropriate PB topics.

BOS: A. Letizio: Discussion of the value of a joint BOS / WEDC meeting to identify specific elements that could enhance the town's business environment. Audience attendee, Mr. Sycamore questioned the committee's interest in "removing impediments" for businesses and stated that some specific types of businesses such as "strip malls" were "not encouraged" in the WEDC's community survey. Mr Letizio responded that the WEDC is advisory by charter and does not make policy and further stated that there is no discrimination in the committee's discussion of businesses nor did the Survey address "strip malls".

Chamber: B. Donovan: Various upcoming outings and events, listed on web site.

Village Center: S. Wrenn - Subcommittee work has concluded with design recommendations to be presented to the PB this month.

TRC: Mr. Gosselin announced that Ms D'Angelo has resigned from the WEDC and he will request the BOS to make a new appointment. Ms D'Angelo submitted her most recent TRC notes. Mr. Gosselin noted that no commercial properties were currently under review. Mr. Coburn volunteered to become the WEDC TRC representative and Mr. Gosselin so appointed.

Community Development: L. Scott: Various business opportunities and visits are scheduled. Ms Scott requested assistance in drawing up a purchasing policy for the BOS and Ms Donovan volunteered. Ms

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APPROVED



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Scott also requested any items, especially larger dollar items, that the WEDC consider be identified so they could be included in her upcoming budget.

Subcommittees:

Infrastructure: R. Valentine: Mr. Valentine reviewed work to date and identified upcoming tasks to include a meeting with DES and further information on the cost and extent of a water survey. Mr. Oldenburg and Mr. Coburn volunteered to join the subcommittee and Mr. Gosselin so appointed.

Marketing: A. Letizio: Mr. Letizio suggested that the committee be renamed "Communications" as more in keeping with its work. He noted that the committee completed the original assigned task with the development of the Power Point which continues in use via the town web site and cable. Some discussion continued about additional tasks and clear delivery timelines. Ms Scott offered the use of her email blast system to better communicate. Ms Denopolis volunteered to join the committee and Mr. Gosselin so appointed.

VOTED: On motion made (D. Connolly) and seconded (S. Wrenn) the committee approved the name change from Marketing Subcommittee to Communications Subcommittee. 10-0-0.

Mr. Gosselin then suggested that the committee be more overt in identifying topics that would be of interest to or impactful on the business community. There was general agreement that such information is both within the WEDC Mission and is also beneficial to the wider community.

Land Use: P. Gosselin: With the Village Center work completed, there is nothing now to focus on. The committee will stay available to work with the PB as needed. Mr. Coburn and Mr. Oldenburg volunteered to join the subcommittee and Mr. Gosselin so appointed.

VOTED: On motion made (B. Donovan) and seconded (R. Valentine) the committee approved the nominations that Mr. Gosselin appointed. 10-0-0.

Mr. Gosselin adjourned the meeting at 8:58.