



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PO Box 120, Windham, New Hampshire 03087

(603) 432-3806 / Fax (603) 432-7362

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**Approved**

### Windham Economic Development Committee

WEDC

Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 9, 2014

**Present:** Chairman R. Valentine, Members: J. Colburn, D. Connolly, B. Donovan, E. Gallagher, P. Gosselin A. Letizio, , M. Oldenberg

**Excused:** S. Denopolis,

**Absent:** B. Breton, J. Desilets

**Admin Staff:** L. Scott

Chairman Valentine opened the meeting at 7:39am with the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Chairman Valentine introduced the members of the WEDC.

**VOTED:** On motion made (B. Donovan) and seconded (D. Connolly), the Committee approved the meeting minutes from March 14, 2014. 5-0-3 (P. Gosselin, M. Oldenberg, J. Colburn abstaining)

**VOTED:** On motion made (A. Letizio) and seconded (P. Gosselin), the Committee approved the meeting minutes from April 10, 2014. 8-0-0.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**TRC** – J. Colburn – Current reviews contain no larger projects. Next week a request for an expansion to the Waterhouse country store will be presented and discussed.

**Planning Board** – P. Gosselin – Current work includes prioritizing topics for discussion related to updating the Master Plan. Mr. Gosselin requests that WEDC continue to be involved and offer input, especially on land use. Discussion continued about specific parcel identification and use. The Committee substantially agreed that the Land Use subcommittee continue its review of available parcels and bring forward “highest and best use” information for continued discussion.

**Board of Selectmen** – A. Letizio – The Board continues to look at unused or underused town parcels and continues to value the WEDC input. The Board has recently met with three candidates interested in joining the WEDC.

**Chamber** – B. Donovan – Various networking and informational events are scheduled. Work continues on a regional basis studying common interests and needs for water. Ms Donovan expressed appreciation to Ms Scott for her ongoing support of and interaction with regional towns, Chambers and Community Development departments.



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#### Subcommittee Reports

**Communications** – A. Letizio – nothing new. As new members are appointed to the Committee, the subcommittee will be re-populated.

**Land Use** – A. Letizio with M. Oldenberg, B. Donovan, P. Gosselin, J. Desilets – Subcommittee is currently looking at state, town and privately owned land along Route 111 to research and understand why land is not developed. Subcommittee will report back to the WEDC for input, as requested, to the Planning Board, the Board of Selectmen and the School Board.

**Infrastructure** – R. Valentine with M. Oldenberg, J. Colburn – The subcommittee had a presentation from Mr. Mark Kovacs regarding bringing natural gas to town. The subcommittee approves the idea and Ms Scott will post the presentation on the town web site. The DES is considering extending Pennichuck water further along Route 128 up to Rt 111 to relieve its repetitive treatments in that area. The subcommittee will report back on further developments.

**Strategic Planning** – E. Gallagher w/ J. Colburn – While gathering and reviewing historic and appropriate documents, the subcommittee is interested in identifying opportunities to target businesses for appropriately located parcels and supporting existing businesses to enhance growth. The subcommittee further wants to articulate an overall vision of the types of development that would enhance the quality of life in town. Discussion continued about reasons businesses declined to purchase available lots and why some businesses left town, describing a wide array of business – appropriate reasons.

**Community Development** – L. Scott – Various events and programs continue into the summer. June 12<sup>th</sup> will be the CURP Community meeting. Prior to that (**1pm, May 27<sup>th</sup> was agreed**), the WEDC will come together to complete the CURP survey. Ms Scott encouraged members to attend the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to have our voices heard. Ms Scott will additionally keep the WEDC informed about discussion dates for input to the Planning Board on its Master Plan work.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59am.