



OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Windham Economic Development Committee
WEDC
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2012

Present: Chairman, Bob Young; Members: Bruce Breton, Dianne Connolly, Sally D'Angelo, Bev Donovan, Paul Gosselin, Al Letizio, Ralph Valentine, Sy Wrenn, Jay Yennaco (7:45am)

Excused: Laura Scott, Administrative Staff (Non-voting)

Absent: K. DiFruscia,

Guest: Mr. Dick Messina

Chairman Young opened the meeting at 7:37.

Chairman Young noted that Paul Gosselin has been reappointed to his new term and sworn in. The chairman also thanked R. Valentine and B. Donovan for their attendance at the recent Planning Board meeting and for their important input.

VOTED: On motion made (R. Valentine) and seconded (S. D'Angelo), the committee approved the minutes of 10/12/12 with one correction. 6-0-2. (B. Donovan, B. Breton abstaining)

VOTED: The following subcommittee minutes were approved

- Zoning from 8/28/12; P. Gosselin motion, S. D'Angelo 2nd, 3-0-0
- Marketing from 10/18/12; D. Connolly motion, B. Breton 2nd, 3-0-0.
- Infrastructure from 9/13/12, B. Young motion, S. Wrenn 2nd, 3-0-0

Subcommittee Status Update:

Marketing – A. Letizio; Member schedules have made meeting scheduling a challenge. B. Young offered to join the committee to make obtaining a quorum easier. Work will continue in January to develop a clear and focused message designed to prompt discussion within the community about reasonable town growth. Chairman Letizio will work towards having a video display completed for the next Election Day.

Infrastructure – R. Valentine; Committee met with Pennichuck to discuss water requirements for an Exit 3 build-out. Mr. Valentine identified a grant available that would pay for a study to obtain said information. Mr. Breton identified a study done by Salem that could offer information and Mr. Valentine will follow up.

The WEDC agreed that Mr. Valentine should pursue the grant, 10-0-0.

Zoning – B. Donovan; Ms Donovan reviewed the recent Planning Board meeting, identifying the continued disagreement over basic terms. Discussion followed regarding restrictive language in the Site Plan Regulation document that would prohibit commercial growth. R. Valentine, P. Gosselin and S. Wrenn encouraged WEDC presence at the next Planning Board meeting (12/19) for further discussion of Site Plan Regulations to underscore “unintended consequences” and undue, duplicative and conflicting regulation requirements on commercial properties.

APPROVED



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VOTED: On motion made (R. Valentine) and seconded (P. Gosselin), the committee approved the drafting of a memo from the WEDC to the Planning Board requesting the deletion of the term “professional” and like terms (used to describe building use) as too restrictive and also deletion of restrictions on drive-through commercial buildings as such are currently regulated through safety code enforcement. 8-0-2. (J. Yennaco, S. Wrenn abstaining)

TRC: B. Breton; It was suggested that the WEDC talk to the town tax assessor regarding taxes on renovated or expanded properties. B. Young suggested the topic be tabled or passed to the marketing sub-committee.

Chamber update: B. Donovan; The chamber will be exploring ways to engage area Economic Development committees to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Wishing all a happy holiday, Chairman Young adjourned the meeting at 9:20.

APPROVED