

OLD VALUES - NEW HORIZONS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Windham Economic Development Committee WEDC Meeting Minutes Friday, February 08, 2013

Present: Chairman, Bob Young; Members: Dianne Connolly, Bev Donovan (7:40am), Paul Gosselin, Al

Letizio, Ralph Valentine (7:43am), Sy Wrenn, Jay Yenacco.

Admin Staff: Laura Scott

Excused: Bruce Breton, Sally D'Angelo

Absent: K. DiFruscia, **Guest:** Mr. Rex Norman

Chairman Young opened the meeting at 7:35

VOTED: On motion made (S. Wrenn) and seconded (P. Gosselin), the committee approved the minutes of the 1/11/13 meeting with one correction. 5-0-1 (J. Yenacco abstaining)

Communications: Chairman Young reviewed the following communications:

- 1. Regarding the Tax Abatement Seminar, Mr. Young received a communications from Ms Scott on 1/27/13 for the WEDC to support same as has been the pattern for small business seminars. After various communications from Mr. D. Sullivan, Mr. Young has agreed to meet with the Board of Selectman in an upcoming public session to discuss further.
- Mr. Young was asked by the Marketing Subcommittee to draft a letter articulating the WEDC's position on Sunday Licenses. Mr. Young did so.
 VOTED: On motion made (A. Letizio) and seconded (B. Donovan), the committee approved the Mr. Young's letter 8-0-0. Ms. Scott will disseminate.
- 3. The WEDC is invited to the Planning Board's 2/20/13 meeting for presentations on a 10 year transportation plan, a program to pre-certify commercial sites and a public session on the Site Regulation Plans.

Marketing Subcommittee, A. Letizio, Chairman

Mr. Letizio presented the Power Point presentation the subcommittee has designed for use at public events. The presentation targets residents and the purpose of the presentation is to stimulate conversation by presenting objective information gathered from recorded tax information and publically conducted surveys (Conservation and WEDC Surveys specifically). Mr. Letizio thanked Mr. Norman for his extensive help if gathering tax information and for assisting with the project.

Extensive discussion ensued on each slide. There was consensus agreement on the following:

- Dollar amounts for "potential" development would be based on CTAP 10/15/10 report and consistently expressed against current expenses.
- Language throughout would be positive, i.e., "encouraging" commercial development, and would be expressed to stimulate discussion.

VOTED: On motion made (R. Valentine) and seconded (B. Donovan), the committee approved the slides as amended by discussion. 8-0-0. Ms Scott will post the slides on the website; Mr. Letizio will use the slides at the upcoming deliberative sessions and will also investigate putting the slides on public access



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TV. Mr. Letizio concluded by offering special thanks to Mr. Norman for his assistance. Mr. Young thanked the Marketing Subcommittee for their work.

Infrastructure and Land Use Subcommittees: Mr. Valentine and Ms Donovan had nothing new to report.

Site Plan Regulations: Ms Donovan noted incremental work with no major changes since last report. **Warrant Articles**: The WEDC was present on subcommittees developing Warrants and offered guidance throughout. There was consensus agreement that the WEDC will make a public comment in support of those articles affecting commercial development, per Ms Scott, Articles 5, 6 and 8. Mr. Valentine and Ms Donovan will draft statement and circulate to committee for approval.

TRC: Mr. Young asked for a TRC representative noting that Mr. Breton was ill and could not continue in that role. Mr. Valentine will review current TRC documents and the WEDC will discuss further when full committee is present.

Planning Board: Mr. Wrenn noted that commercial property discussions were not yet scheduled. **Community Development:** Ms Scott previously sent out specific and well detailed information citing the department's updates on its strategic plan and additional department activities.

Chamber: Ms Donovan reminded members of the request for Pillar Award nominations.

Mr. Young adjourned the meeting at 9:26.

Mr. Young reconvened the meeting at 9:27

VOTED: On motion made (J. Yenacco) and seconded (D. Connolly), the Marketing Subcommittee approved the minutes of the 1/17/13 meeting, 3-0-0.

VOTED: On motion made (B. Young) and seconded (D. Connolly), the Marketing Subcommittee approved the minutes of the 1/31/13 meeting, 4-0-0.

Mr. Young adjourned the meeting at 9:29.