

Windham Economic Development Committee (WEDC)
Approved Minutes
April 8th, 2016

Present:, Lisa Walker, Bob Higgins, Donna Morris, Al Letizio, Gary Garfield, Ed Gallagher, Mike Oldenburg, Ruth- Ellen Post, Joel Desilets
Absent: Ralph Valentine

7:38 AM call to order Chairman Ed Gallagher. Led with Pledge of Allegiance
Formal introductions made by members.

Sub Committee Minutes past meetings
Communications February 19th 2016 minutes. Motion made by Donna Morris seconded Bob Higgins.
Motion carried.2-0

Infrastructure February 8th, 2016 minutes. Motion made by Mike Oldenburg, seconded Gary Garfield.
Motion carried 2-0

Strategic Planning minutes January 28th, 2016 Motion made by Joel Desilets Seconded by Gary Garfield.
Motion carried 2-0

Communications minutes December 4th 2015. Motion made by Donna Morris seconded by Ed Gallagher.
Motion carried 3-0

Committee Updates: Bob Higgins extended his thanks to the voters for support. Next committee meeting scheduled for April 16th, 2016.

Infrastructure: Gary Garfield, no meeting waiting on Liberty Utilities to get dates to committee for meeting.

Land Use: Mike Oldenburg, evaluating lots, mapping lots (school areas). 80 acres owned by town. Trips to Lull Farms in Hollis NH. Success in preserving rural character. Shannon Farms 100 acres horse farm. Nice possibilities for Windham. One more meeting scheduled for preliminary vision and bring forward to WEDC and Planning Board for thoughts and input. Suggest 1 to 2 members participate from WEDC. Opportunities cited for town: Tax impact, quality of life. Ruth-Ellen to pass onto Planning Board a summary fro Mike Oldenburg. Laura Scott noted that there is money in budget to look at project but only Planning Board can access. The amount is \$5,000.

Board of Selectman update: Joel Desilets, no updates, Joint workshops throughout the year

Planning Board: Ruth-Ellen Post, 55+ residential housing major conceptual at Gateway. Village Center District coming back for conceptual discussion. Laura Scott to request joint meeting of WEDC, Planning Board and Selectman.

TRC Committee: Lisa Walker, no updates.

Chamber Update: Donna Morris, EDC Breakfast April 14th, Joe Faro, Karl Dubay, to outline plans/concepts for development. A table for WEDC will be around perimeter of room. April 18th Administrative Panel with town administrators. May is the Taste of Salem with Billy Costa

REDS CEDS: Donna Morris, Quarterly meeting. Submittal in for water structure.

Ed Gallagher: Topics of interest in discussion with Planning Board and Selectman. Strategic, Development, Infrastructure, Utilities. Gary will talk with Ralph to coordinate. Laura Scott to work with Committee to schedule. Infrastructure can create agenda. AI suggested promoting forum as it may interest residents. Laura Scott suggested keeping current as the DES data is yet available.

Chairman Gallagher brought up concept of a dedicated individual to advocate for economic development in Windham. It was noted by Chair that suggestion is not a reflection of the ability or effectiveness of Laura Scott. Currently about 30% of her time is on WEDC. A recent opening has given thought to look at redirecting resources to better align with WEDC vision. Having a full time advocate might have even greater impact in moving forward with economic growth in town.

Motion made by Bob Higgins seconded by Mike Oldenburg, to ask Chairman Gallagher to participate in discussion furthering EDC in Windham. All in favor

Dan Sullivan addressed the committee on the topic a dedicated advocate. He stressed that often times interest by parties cannot be disclosed due to confidentiality issues. He has a broad concern with the concept. Suggests perhaps adding versus realigning job descriptions.

Motion made by Joel Desilets to adjourn seconded by Donna Morris. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 9:38 AM