

**WEDC MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY JUNE 13, 2014**

Approved

Present: Chairman R. Valentine, Members: J. Colburn, P. Gosselin, B. Higgins, C. Roberts, M. Oldenberg, J. Desilets

Excused: A. Letizio, B. Donovan, E. Gallagher

Admin Staff: L. Scott

Guest: Donna Morris, Salem Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Valentine opened the meeting at 7:38am with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Valentine introduced the members of the WEDC and welcomed newest members: C. Roberts, B. Higgins.

VOTED: On motion made (M. Oldenberg) seconded (P. Gosselin), the committee approved the meeting minutes from May 9th 2014 6-0-1. C. Roberts abstained

Committee Reports:

TRC – J. Colburn – Jim gave an update on the discussing of the TRC; one of the things discussed was improving draining.

Planning Board – discussed the upcoming meetings, one liaison meeting (PB & EDC) on July 9th, recommended that EDC have a formal presentation. Also July 16th meeting which is a forum at Searle's. Paul also discussed the historic committee's thoughts on retaining and/or renovating historic buildings along Route 111, could it be done and would there be enough incentive for developers. Chairman Valentine discussed the challenges of those buildings meeting code and often times it is not worth it for developers to renovate these buildings. Also discussed the updates to the Master plan. Joel expressed concern about the distribution of the survey, is it reaching enough people in different demographics. Paul said can't tell what the survey demographics are until we receive more data. All agreed to give the survey more time.

Board of Selectman – J. Desilets – Nothing to report to EDC from Board.

Chamber – D. Morris – Direct mail campaign of all members was sent, with over 30,000 copies going out. In past years the count was much lower. The chamber is making a larger effort to reach out and to get the members in front of many more people.

VOTED: On appointing Joel Desilets to Land Use Subcommittee motion made (P. Gosselin) and seconded (J. Colburn). Approved 6-0-1, Joel Desilets abstained. Joel will sit on this board as a citizen not a selectman.

VOTED: On appointing Joel Desilets to Strategic Planning Subcommittee, motion made (J. Colburn) and seconded (C. Roberts). Approved 6-0-1 Joel Desilets abstained sitting on this committee as an EDC member.

Subcommittee reports continued

Land Use – P. Gosselin – Discussed wetlands/rezoning of parcels, Paul thinks this might not be necessary. Ralph discussed parcels at 128 & 111 and the parcels between Lowell Rd and London Bridge Rd. Paul said land use has discussed these areas. Also discussed watershed trying to expand their protections. Laura said no expansion without updated DES mapping using the same criteria as the existing watershed mapping.

Infrastructure – Ralph – Discussed an upcoming meeting with Pennichuck re: the possibility of extending waterline from 128/111 to Exit 3 along Route 111. A proposed extension from about a mile south of 128/111 to 128/111, if approved (very likely per DES) will be funded by NHDES Wastewater funds, and of NO cost to the taxpayers. There are 2 separate water line extensions being reviewed at the sub-committee level. Re: a question about bringing natural gas to Windham, per Laura, Liberty Utilities will be doing a feasibility analysis over the summer. B. Higgins asked if internet speed/connection fell under infrastructure, discussed how he learned in a meeting the previous evening that it was unreliable. The answer was yes.

VOTE: To appoint Bob Higgins to infrastructure subcommittee as an EDC member, motion made (P. Gosselin) seconded (J. Colburn) Approved 6-0-1. Bob Higgins abstained

Strategic Planning: J. Colburn – Working on final draft of strategic plan, members of the subcommittee (J. Colburn, C. Roberts) have suggested changes other members are going to provide comments for Friday 6/20/14 meeting. Should have a draft to present to EDC within 2 to 3 meetings. Working on incorporating smart growth for “quality of life for Windham citizens” into the draft.

Community Development: Laura Scott – Meeting on Wednesday 6/18/14, Planning Board discussing the rezoning of gateway properties to residential. This request was brought before the planning board by 2 parties, one a resident who currently lives on one of the subject parcels and a resident who does not. Planning board say they would look into it. Ralph questioned which parcels might be considered for rezoning? Laura said there is no specific list at this time. Also discussed some changes in the community development section. Laura talked about Adopt-a-Spot program that was happening on Saturday. Paul mentioned the car wash for the Eagle Scouts as A. Letizio's on Saturday to support Windham Sports fields. Laura also discussed the importance of the survey for the master plan and how well she feels the community is being reached to.

Motion to Adjourn (J. Desilets) seconded (J. Colburn) **Meeting Adjourned at 9:07am**