



Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 11, 2017

Committee members in attendance:

Charlie Albano – Chair

Michael Amaral - Conservation Commission Rep.

Joe Mendola – Business Owner

Peter Anderson – Planning Board Member

Ginger Marsh - Sugar River Bank/Business Rep.

Darryl Parker – Business Owner

Clyde Carson – Selectman's Representative

Absent: Christine Frost – Citizen at Large

1. Meeting Schedule

The Committee agreed to meet on Tuesday, August 15, and Wednesday, September 20 and then they will try monthly on every third Wednesday there after.

2. Membership

The Committee identified 4 new members. Clyde explained the Selectmen would like the EDC to figure out the terms for each member and return to the Selectmen with that information. The terms will begin for this year as follows:

New Member	3 years
Charlie Albano	2 years
Darryl Parker	2 years
Christine Frost	2 years
Joe Mendola	2 years
Ginger Marsh	1 year
Michael Amaral	1 year
Peter Anderson	1 year
Selectman's Rep.	1 year

3. Conservation Commission Meeting

- A. Charlie met with the Conservation Commission to provide an overview on what the Economic Development Committee is doing. One of the topics was ATV's, a club would like to expand in the Minks area. The ATV group feels the expansion is economic positive because the expansion would allow for the club to park and eat in the village. From the Commission's standpoint is the damage to the Minks the ATV's will cause. Charlie offered information from Central NH Regional Planning Commission when asked how do we keep Warner the way we want it to be. CNHRPC said you need to put the language in to the Zoning Ordinance that describes what is allowed and what is not. Clyde said the Minks is not just a Warner issue, it covers 3 other towns as well, Henniker, Hopkinton and Bradford. Clyde feels a regional discussion needs to take place.
- B. The Commission asked if the ATV expansion is an economic boom. Charlie told them the only document he knows of was produced by Tim Blagden (Rail Trail) that says over 10 years \$1,000,000 will be spent between Concord and Sunapee by people riding their bikes etc. Darryl said he is on the Board of Director's for the Rail Trail.

4. Survey

- A. Charlie said he has been talking to people and before the Committee starts encouraging businesses to come to Warner the survey needs to come first so that people can share what type of businesses they would like to see. The Committee can use Central NH Regional Planning Commission as a resource. The survey will serve as an advisory/guidance document. The Committee talked about doing the survey in January and then a presentation to the Selectmen in February.

5. Tax Revitalization Credit – RSA 79-E

- A. Charlie suggested Joe and Darryl should meet with Jim Bingham to educate themselves on what the town has, how does it work, and how this Committee can help use it. Joe said the biggest thing for the EDC is what the website does and says, to be able to make the tax credits a focal point on the website. Joe and Darryl will organize a meeting.

6. Property Information On-line

- A. Peter said the Planning Board submitted the request for the GIS system last year through the Capital Improvement Plan, but the project was pulled out by the Selectmen, he believes it will be submitted this year. Darryl feels the quote of \$15K can easily be reduced to under \$10K and it would be within the spending parameters. Clyde said it would still need to be a separate warrant article. Darryl asked why. Clyde said the cost is big enough where it would not be included in the operating budget. Darryl said the GIS is a stepping stone to a better website.

7. Warner Businesses

- A. Darryl went through referenceusa.com and was able to obtain a Warner business list that comprised of about 400 businesses in Warner, some were duplicates, some were debunked. He separated the list by 5 or more employees which reduced it to 121 business, he verified this list and reduced it down to 41 businesses in Warner that have 5 or more employees. Darryl said he will clean the list further and then they will have a list of primary employers in Warner that can be maintained and updated. At this time MainStreet Warner is not on the list and it should be. Darryl asked if the Committee should include in Economic Development business owners that live in Warner, he feels that they should be included, everyone agreed that there is a value.

8. Area Chamber

- A. Charlie said Hopkinton is dropping out of the Kearsarge Area Chamber and having their own. Darryl said Bradford is also doing the same thing. Charlie said if we have on our new website, and call the Chamber Warner Chamber of Commerce/Kearsarge it will direct people to Warner. Darryl said unless your going to head that effort up, the current Chamber would have to choose that direction to go, he said the current leadership is not interested in that. Darryl said he has served on many Chamber's and the goal of a Chamber is to be an educator and be an advocate within the business climate and this Kearsarge Chamber is not doing that. Economic Development Committee's and Chamber's work hand and hand.

9. Membership

- A. Charlie told Clyde he would like to meet with the new 4 members at the next meeting on August 15.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned around 7:45 pm.

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen