

Meeting Minutes

Milton Economic Development Committee (MEDC) meeting
Milton Town Office
424 White Mountain Highway, NH Route 125, Milton, NH

Tuesday May 5, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Those present: MEDC members - Bob Bourdeau, Cubbi Lirette, Eric Knapp

Absent: Nick Marique (Ossipee fire) and Mike Beaulieu (testify at NH Legislative budget hearing)
staff - Gerald Coogan

Guests: Cynthia Wyatt, MCC, Kari Lygren, Denise-Roy Palmer, WEDCO, Charles and Sharon Therriault

1. General items

- Introductions: all present introduced themselves.
- Election of the Committee Chair: MEDC members present elected Eric Knapp Chair. Eric accepted.
- Minutes of March 3, 2015: Deferred
- Meeting day and times: After discussion, the group agreed to stick with the 1st Tuesday at 5:30 PM for now and see how it works going forward.

2. Updates

- Meeting with Charles (Chuck) Therriault – Mr. Therriault described his plans to construct a 120,000 SF building to manufacture modular units for residential and nonresidential uses. He contacted Ms. Perkins and they were unable to reach agreement. The Therriault land abuts Tax Map 45, Lot 70, which the Town took for taxes. However, there is a three year period before the Town can sell the property. The parcel has a title issue that need to be resolved at the expense of the buyer. The MEDC moved to work with the BOS to resolve the ownership issue. Mr. Therriault will send a letter to the MEDC describing his proposal and his request.
- Ray's Marina site – the developer of the Dunkin Donuts received his building permit and will start work soon. There appears to be interest in the property across the highway.
- Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) application – NH DRED approved the Town's application and the MEDC should put the information on the Town website.

- CIP – The Planning Board will start the CIP process at its meeting on May 5th.
- Moose Mountain Alliance – Involves the Towns of Milton, Middleton, Farmington, New Durham, Wakefield, Brookfield and Wolfeboro. The effort is designed to attract small businesses (B&Bs, retail etc.) related to rural tourism and hospitality. The group has developed the theme of the “Sweet 16” corridor and will meet on Thursday June 25th at the NH Farm Museum.

3. Business Visitation Program

B. Bourdeau stated that the list of businesses needs to be reviewed and updated. The basic intent is to assist in the retention and expansion of existing businesses. MEDC will send a letter to the Milton businesses and then visit them individually to determine any concerns or needs they may have.

Denise Roy Palmer noted that about 70% of new job creation comes from existing businesses and described the UNH Cooperative Extension Business Visitation and Retention Program headed up by Andre Garon at UNH Cooperative Extension, Durham. The MEDC would like to invite Mr. Garon to an upcoming meeting.

4. Marketing efforts for 2015

If the MEDC wishes to market Milton and its economic development potential via the website, E. Knapp noted the Town’s website will require improvement.

5. Adjournment and next MEDC meeting date

The meeting concluded at 6:15 PM. Upcoming MEDC meetings:

- Tuesday June 2nd at 5:30 PM – Town office
- Thursday June 25th at 6:00 PM in conjunction with Moose Mountain Alliance and to be held at the NH Farm Museum, Milton, NH