

# Meeting Minutes

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

Tuesday March 3, 2015 at 5:30 PM

Those present: MEDC members - Nick Marique, Bob Bourdeau, Cubbi Lirette, Mike Beaulieu, Eric Knapp (excused); staff - Gerald Coogan

Guests: Cynthia Wyatt, MCC, Kari Lygren, Denise-Roy Palmer, WEDCO, Larry Brown, MPB, Jeff Bein and Bruce Woodruff

## 1. General items

- Introductions: all present introduced themselves.
- Election of the Committee Chair: defer till the next meeting when the entire Committee will hopefully be present.
- Discussion meeting day and time of day: the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM was acceptable to all.
- Comments: G. Coogan requested comments and feedback on the Milton Economic Development Strategy prepared in late 2012 with assistance from Jack Mettee, AICP, Planning Consultant. MEDC members thought the report remains current and relevant. B. Bourdeau suggested incorporating information from the design workshop on Exits # 17 and # 18 into the report. Discussion on the economic development webpage and Town's website.

## 2. Updates

- Ray's Marine site – the developer of the Dunkin Donuts site expects to break ground in April 2015. After some discussion at the BOS meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the BOS approved and signed the DOT Sidewalk Agreement.
- Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) application – the BOS approved submission of the ERZ application to the NH DRED on February 17<sup>th</sup>. B. Bourdeau suggested including the old Milton Hardware site in the ERZ application and G. Coogan will explore that. (Update ... NH DRED approved the application.)
- CIP – N. Marique reported that the CIP Department Heads are waiting for Town Meeting authorization to proceed with work on the CIP.

3. Business Visitation Program

G. Coogan reported that business visitation is an important part of the Town's economic development effort and thought the MEDC members might want to be involved in this effort. D. Roy-Palmer reported that the Town of Wolfeboro is working with the UNH Cooperative Extension (CE), Andre Garon, on this program. UNH CE works with a few communities each year on business visitation for a modest fee. The Committee thought MEDC could undertake this effort informally. B. Bourdeau will compile a list of Milton businesses with their contact information and M. Beaulieu will work on securing assistance from the Town staff with the mailing. B. Bourdeau mentioned that Global Tech has left their building in Milton for Dover, due to personal reasons of the owner and employees. R. Frizzell desires to sell his buildings.

4. Marketing efforts for 2015

G. Coogan mentioned ongoing efforts such as contacts with NH DRED, PSNH, WEDCO and the Commercial Industrial Realtors Board (CIBOR) and use of the Town website. There was discussion on the need to upgrade the Town's economic development webpage and perhaps entire website. C. Wyatt and D. Roy-Palmer discussed the Moose Mountain Regional Alliance which is working on a rural tourism program, designed to attract more visitors and tourists to eastern New Hampshire - Milton, Wakefield, Farmington, Brookfield et cetera. The Stafford Regional Planning Commission is assisting in the effort. The program involves identification of trails, greenways designed to connect to outdoor recreation attractions. The group noted the lack of overnight accommodations and restaurants.

5. Other

C. Wyatt mentioned the upcoming Town Meeting vote on the zoning amendment allowing a landfill. MEDC took no action on this. C. Wyatt mentioned the need for community involvement in the formulation of the vision statement for the Master Plan.

6. Adjournment and next MEDC meeting date

The meeting concluded at 6:25 PM. The next MEDC meeting will be Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM