

Milton Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2017

Opening

The regular meeting of the Milton Economic Development Committee was called to order at 5:40pm on March 7, 2017 in the Milton Town Hall by Justin Avery.

Committee Members Present

Justin Avery, Bob Bourdeau, Eric Knapp and Selectman Mike Beaulieu

Others Present

Bruce Woodruff, Milton Town Planner and Denise Roy-Palmer, WEDCO Executive Director

Open Items

Approval of Minutes from February 14, 2017 Meeting:

Mr. Avery asked if the committee members had a chance to review the February 2017 minutes. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to approve the February 2017 minutes as presented, Mr. Beaulieu seconded the motion. All in favor.

New Business

Bruce Woodruff, Town Planner Introduction:

Mr. Bruce Woodruff introduced himself to the committee as the new Town Planner for Milton. Mr. Woodruff informed the committee that he was available to lend assistance to their efforts whenever possible and asked if the committee could catch him up on the primary initiatives they are focused on at the moment for Milton. Mr. Bourdeau explained that the primary focus for the committee in 2017 would be to continue to develop and implement the business visitation program. Mr. Bourdeau further explained that currently the committee is waiting to see if their budget gets passed so that money would be available to engage UNH Cooperative Extension to assist in the development of the program for maximum effectiveness. If the budget is not passed, the committee will continue to work to develop a program on their own.

Mr. Woodruff inquired as to what other issues Milton faces that may prevent the committee's economic development efforts. Mr. Knapp mentioned that broadband connectivity within the town is an issue that could prevent more technologically focused businesses from moving into Milton, including his own. Mr. Avery mentioned that on this particular issue he would reach out to the State's Director of Broadband to see if she could come speak to the committee.

Mr. Woodruff once again expressed that he is available to assist the committee in their efforts and has a background in a myriad of different planning initiatives that may be useful for the committee in their future efforts including addressing the broadband issue. The committee members thanked Mr. Woodruff for coming to the meeting, introducing himself and offering his assistance. The committee looks forward to working with Mr. Woodruff.

Old Business

Milton Business Listing Review & Visitation Program:

Letter to Selectmen ER Zones:

Mr. Avery reminded the committee of the discussion that took place at the February 2017 meeting regarding the addition of ER Zones in Milton. In order to complete the application he would need a copy of the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's meeting where they had approved the zones. Mr. Avery explained to Selectman Beaulieu that he was not able to find the approval discussion in any of the recent selectmen meeting minutes. Selectman Beaulieu said he would check into the minutes and would discuss once again with the selectmen.

Review Exit 17 Discussion w/ Selectman M. Beaulieu:

Mr. Avery inquired as to the status of the Exit 17 development that Mr. Therriault had come before the committee earlier in the year to discuss. Mr. Beaulieu explained that there are still items that Mr. Therriault needs to address as required by the Zoning Board and that he will continue to update the committee as to the status of those items.

Adjournment

Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Knapp seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Justin Avery