

Milton Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2017

Opening

The regular meeting of the Milton Economic Development Committee was called to order at 5:30 pm on September 12, 2017 in the Milton Town Hall by Justin Avery.

Committee Members Present

Justin Avery, Bob Bourdeau, Nick Marique and Cubbi Lirette

Others Present

Alexx Monastiero- Real Estate Advisors

New Business

Alexx Monastiero- Real Estate Advisors Elm Street Development

Alexx Monastiero of Real Estate Advisors in Newmarket who recently acquired the former Firehouse building came before the committee to introduce herself and discuss the proposed Elm Street project she and her company hope to develop. A general discussion ensued regarding the specifics of the project and some of the stated concerns some citizens have expressed. Ms. Monastiero expressed concern that there may be a bit of confusion surrounding the nature of the proposed type of housing to be built and she is hoping to clear up that confusion. Mr. Marique reaffirmed Ms. Monastiero's notion and suggested that by thoroughly explaining what the intentions of the project are to those she engages with she may alleviate a bit of the concern and misinformation surrounding the project. After a bit more general discussion, Ms. Monastiero thanked the committee for allowing her to come and introduce herself and the project and welcomed any further questions the committee may come up with in the future as well as any suggestions for the use of the former firehouse building. Ms. Monastiero exited at 6 pm.

Open Items

Approval of Minutes April 18, 2017 and August 1, 2017 Meeting:

The minutes from the April 2017 and August 2017 meetings were presented for approval. Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as presented, Ms. Lirette seconded the motion. Mr. Marique abstained, 3 in favor, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Old Business

Business Visitation Program/UNH Cooperative Extension:

Mr. Avery updated the group that he had emailed Charlie French of UNH Cooperative Extension to touch base about the committee's plan for a business visitation program. Mr. Avery has not heard back from Mr. French as of yet however he does know that Mr. French's team is a little short-staffed. Mr. Avery will continue to follow up.

Broadband subcommittee for the Town of Milton:

Mr. Avery informed the committee that he had been in email conversation with Eric Knapp regarding the formation of a Broadband subcommittee for the Town of Milton. Mr. Knapp's schedule may not allow him to spearhead the project however he would be willing to reach out to Carol Miller, the State's Director of Broadband and Bruce Woodruff to discuss this initiative. Mr. Avery also informed the committee that he has asked Mr. Knapp to think about whether or not there were any citizens in Milton that would want to serve on a subcommittee to enhance broadband that the MEDC could reach out to. Ms. Lirette suggested someone from the school's IT department may be a great place to recruit from for this initiative.

MEDC Membership:

Mr. Avery explained that he had reached out to the Dana Smith at the Town Office to confirm who the Selectmen's rep was for the MEDC as one had not been present for several meetings. Ms. Smith explained to Mr. Avery that the selectmen were in the process of assigning committees to themselves and that she would forward the question to the Town Administrator for clarification. Mr. Avery also inquired as to what the maximum number of committee members was for the MEDC to which Ms. Smith did not have an answer but would also forward to the Town Administrator. Mr. Marique informed the committee that he would be speaking to the Town Administrator in the coming days and would follow up on the two questions regarding membership and report back to the committee. Mr. Bourdeau stated that he thought the committee still had an open membership spot that could be filled and that the committee should advertise that they are looking to for a volunteer to serve. Mr. Marique stated he would notify the appropriate parties that the committee needed to advertise an open volunteer spot the next time he visited the Town Hall.

Other Items/Updates:

Northgate Holdings LLC/Mi Te Jo Campground:

Mr. Avery informed the committee that he had received a phone call from Zachary Bossenbroek of Northgate Holdings, LLC (The company that purchased Mi Te Jo Campground). Mr. Bossenbroek had inquired with Mr. Avery as to the next steps he needs to take with regards to his campground's expansion. Mr. Avery asked the group for a summary of what had been proposed and what steps to suggest. The committee members briefly summarized the recent proposal and suggested Mr. Bossenbroek get in contact with the Town Planner to discuss proper next steps and procedures. Mr. Avery stated he would follow up with Mr. Bossenbroek and suggest he speak with the Town Planner.

New ER Zone Designations:

Mr. Avery explained to the committee that he had not seen or received the selectmen's minutes that authorized the committee to move forward with the two new ER Zone designations in town. Mr. Marique stated he would follow up on this item and report back at the next committee meeting.

A general discussion ensued regarding the status of various other projects around town.

Adjournment

Mr. Bourdeau made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Lirette seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next general meeting will be at 5:30 pm on October 3, 2017, in the Milton Town Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Justin Avery