

KITTERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – MINUTES – APPROVED 10-29-14

October 14, 2014

Regular Meeting

Conference Room A

1. Call to Order.
Chairman Dow called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. Roll Call.
Answering the call were Chairman George Dow, Gary Beers, John Carlson, Patrick Trevino, Councilor Charles Denault, and Nancy Colbert Puff. Stephen Kosacz arrived at 6:05pm. Ann Grinnell was absent. Mr. Beers left the meeting at 6:50pm.
3. Agenda Amendment/Adoption. None
4. Acceptance of Previous Minutes.
Without objection, the Chairman cast one vote to approve the minutes of meetings on 06/10/14 as presented.
5. All items involving visitors / requested officials. None.
6. Committee Reports.

The Chairman stated that one thing he hoped to achieve at the meeting was to vet out the Committee's thoughts on the Committee's existence and its usefulness.

Ms. Colbert Puff reported:

The Business in Focus article was completed and published. Arrangement will be made to have copies for handing out at Town Hall. The Foreside Forum efforts were continuing with some conclusions drawn and additional meetings to take place. No action had been taken on the business postcard handout. The Sewer Department's engineering firm had told them that natural gas combined heat and power was not feasible for the plant operation. She had contacted Unitel about bringing the pipeline under the interstate and adding service availability. Unitel indicated that their engineers would investigate, but that they'd plan to extend any lines along Dennett Road vs under I95. On the EDC brochure no further action had been taken.

Mr. Kosacz suggested that it needed to be improved in several ways. Mr. Beers pointed out that it had been approved by the Committee on June 6th and was intended to be a handout at Town Hall for people interested in setting up a new business and not for local business to show destinations for visitors. That question was to have been staffed by the Town Planner to find out the interest and cost and whether funds may be available for that purpose.

Discussion began on future activities and Mr. Beers suggested that he was uncomfortable doing until the Chairman's discussion on the Committee's future took place.

Chairman Dow led a discussion on the question with all members expressing their views which ranged from letting it expire to a range of suggestions for future activity focus.

The conclusion of the discussion was that the EDC Committee would look to refocus its efforts towards the Business Park and look to bring in the interested parties (owners at this point) to discuss any and all options that might exist where the EDC might provide value in moving opportunities forward. To date the EDC Committee has had several projects that are in varying stages of completion, but the committee felt that we should re-focus our intention to growth projects, i.e. Business park, and invite the interested parties to come before the committee to discuss what opportunities exist and how the EDC can help.

Lastly, it was felt by the majority of the committee that the EDC would present to the council a 6 month plan of action at which point the progress of the EDC would be reviewed and determined at that point its future use.

Adjournment was called for by the Chair at 7:30pm. All in favor with member Gary Beers absent due to his required attendance to the Board of Appeals (BOA).

7. Unfinished Business.

Continued discussion on the future EDC approach to opportunities with the Business Park.

8. New Business.

None.

9. Committee Member Issues or Comments.

Confirmation of Committee and presentation to Council regarding future of EDC.

10. Meeting Schedule & Adjournment.

NEXT MEETING: October 29, 2014

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by the Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Carlson. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Posted: October 21, 2014