



## MEETING MINUTES

BOARD/COMMITTEE NAME: Mendon Economic Development Committee

DATE OF MEETING: Monday June 12, 2017

TIME OF MEETING: 6:00 P.M.

LOCATION OF MEETING: Town Hall

Members Present: Tom Merolli (Chair), Tim Persson (Vice Chair), Karen Wheet (Secretary), Ann Mazar (Acting Chair), Jordan Berry.

Others Present: John Danielson, William Ambrosino (Planning Board Chair)

1. Meeting called to order 6:03PM by acting chair Ann Mazar
2. The Committee introduced themselves and voted on committee officers
  - Tom Merolli was unanimously elected EDC Chair
  - Tim Persson was unanimously elected Vice Chair
  - Karen Wheet was unanimously elected Secretary
3. Discussed some general goals for the committee
  - Changing zoning by-laws
  - Expanding the depth of commercial zones
  - Selling town land
4. William Ambrosino, Planning Board and master plan chair reviewed his previous efforts at economic development in Mendon.
  - Reviewed a sample RFP for a condominium project from 2004
  - Discussed The Orton Foundation, a nonprofit based out of Vermont which helps small towns around the country with economic development
  - Briefly touched upon the town's Master Plan
  - Invited to committee to attend and discuss EDC plans with the Planning Board and Master Plan.
  - Discussion shifted to different commercial districts in town.

5. Discussion shifted to future steps for the EDC
  - Visiting with current Mendon businesses
    - What are some of the hurdles to starting a business in Mendon?
    - What are the benefits of having a Mendon business?
  - Encouraging re-purposing and re-use of historic homes
  - Reaching out to the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor
  - Looking into availability of low income housing grants
  - Reaching out to realtors
  - Reaching out to Agricultural Commission

6. Action Items for Next Meeting
  - Get Master Plan Information
  - Look at Orton Foundation and what they have to offer
  - Review Zoning By-laws
  - Review RFP
  - Reach out to Heritage Corridor

***The Chair reserves the right to call items on the agenda out of order. The times that are listed for items are approximate times, and items may be reached earlier or later than the posted times. The listing of items is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.***