



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD/COMMITTEE NAME: Mendon Economic Development Committee

DATE OF MEETING: Monday July 10, 2017

TIME OF MEETING: 6:00 P.M.

LOCATION OF MEETING: Town Hall

Members Present: Tom Merolli (Chair), Karen Wheet (Secretary), Jordan Berry.

Others Present: Jeannie Hebert, Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce

1. Meeting called to order 6:08PM by chair Tom Merolli
2. Jeannie Hebert met with us and reviewed the following:

Jeannie – does programs for other towns – suggests inviting local businesses to an open meeting. These have been successful in other towns – typically called Open for Business. EDC or town planner takes lead. Informal breakfast typically here in town. Invites legislature, town dept. of heads. Businesses get to meet face to face and listen to department heads and discuss funding available. Grafton has had 4 already and from the EDC has now grown into subcommittees for feasibility studies and grants. CMRPC, Clark Univ – SBDC and all be involved. First one in Blackstone was held recently. 50 businesses showed up from Northbridge. Town admin would speak first. Q&A offered at the end. Postcard would be sent and would work with the town.

Proposed Mendon Open for Business Meeting: Tues or Wed – breakfast meeting – October timeframe.

Other ideas:

- Congressman Mcgovern office – federal grants. Can get a grant newsletter that we can be part of. Could be a good launching point for the EDC here in town. Agricultural – dept of AG would come and review grants as well.
- Heritage corridor could discuss recycling.
- Housing commission – feasibility studies – works hand in hand with CMRPC.
- Signage is important. Regional director of Mass Office of Development –
- Idea for Route 16 property: Indoor sports Complex. Check in with Northboro. Debra Boranski.

Action Items:

From 6/12/17 meeting:

- Get Master Plan Information – **completed**
- Look at Orton Foundation and what they have to offer – **completed?**
- Review Zoning By-laws - **completed**
- Review RFP - **completed**
- Reach out to Heritage Corridor – **completed**

From 7/10/17 Meeting:

- Jeannie Hebert will introduce us to CMRPC, Mass office of Development, Meghan Duprete – Corridor Commission.
- EDC – our members need to review the survey comments in more detail.
- EDC – check with Master Planning committee – is there an RFP on land on Route 16?

3. Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 PM by chair Tom Merolli

Note: After meeting, Karen Wheet and Tom Merolli stopped in during Planning Committee meeting and briefly introduced selves and new committee

Next meeting: 8/7/17 – Monday 6:00 p.m.

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.