EDC Meeting Minutes - 9/1/10

Contributed by David Stack
Wednesday, 08 September 2010

Northwood Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2010
7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order and attendance

Chair Kristen Kiernan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Kristen Kiernan, Chair; David Tousignant, Vice-chair; Kevin Ash;
Judy Burke; Herb Johnson; and Town Administrator David Stack.

Absent: Hal Kreider (excused); Ken Rick (excused); Selectman Scott Bryer

II. Public Comment - none

III. Meetings - none

IV. Unfinished Business

1. Committee operating procedures and code of conduct

This item was tabled to the 10/6/10 meeting.

2. Meeting with Planning Board to discuss Economic Revitalization Zones (ERZ),
Master Plan and zoning

Dave Tousignant reported on the recent meeting with the Planning Board. The first topic discussed with the Planning Board was the potential creation of an Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) in the Town. He reported that he had handed out information on this State program to the Board and they agreed to recommended to the Selectmen that the Route. 4 and 202 corridor be designated as an Economic Revitalization Zone.

Topics discussed with the Planning Board also included the update of the Town master Plan and the possible creation of overlay buiness development districts in the Town. Dave Tousignant agreed to head up a sub-committee to look at the economic development section of the Master Plan. The Committee asked David Stack to invite the Town Planner, Elaine Planchet, to meet with the Committee at iuts next meeting in October to discuss zoning and how a business overlay district would work.

3. Economic Revitalization Zones (ERZ)

David Stack handed out copies of the administrative rules relative to the creation of an economic revitalization zone along with a sample application from another community.
The Committee discussed the process and the area that it hopes to have designated as an ERZ by the State. The Committee agreed that it wants to seek designation for the complete Route 4 and Route 202 corridor. David Stack agreed to work on the application and will seek assistance from the Town Planner.

4. Business Expo/Fair

Judy Burke presented a report on the activities of the sub-committee. She handed out an outline of possible participants as activities. Kevin Ash stated that he feels that the Committee needs to develop a hook for the program to ensure a high level of participation as well as a good turnout of people attending the event. The Committee would like to expand the scope and turn the event into a town-wide event and encourage various town organizations and businesses to participate. Preliminary plans called for holding the event in November but the Committee agreed that more time is needed to plan a successful event. The Committee unanimously agreed to hold the event in April, 2011. Planning will continue.

5. Business After Hours

David Stack reported that MD Tasker owner Lance Benson had volunteered to cover the cost of food for the upcoming Business After Hours event to be held on 9/15/10 at

MD Tasker. Kristen Kiernan reminded the Committee members to each get a door prize for the drawings.

V. New Business

1. Acceptance of minutes - 8/4/10

Dave Tousignant move to accept the minutes of 8/4/10. Herb Johnson seconded. Motion passed 4-0 with one abstention.

2. New and expanded business news

A sign announcing the future opening of a pickle shop has gone up at the building housing MGM Realty and Cheryl’s Haircuts. Anytime Fitness of Northwood recently received approval for 24 hour operation and will be opening on September 7.

3. Northwood School Community Open House

Kevin Ash announced that the Northwood School Open House and Community Open House will be held on September 21 and 22. The Committee has been invited to attend and set up an information table.

VI. Adjournment

Action: Dave Tousignant moved to adjourn. Herb Johnson seconded. Motion passed
and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.