

**Minutes of
TOWN OF MILTON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
April 9, 2014**

Members Present: Brian Palaia, Chair; Andrew Bessy; John Gifford; Courtney Lamdin; Louis H. Mossey III, and Tony Micklus

Members Absent: John Barone; Lori Donna; Curt Carter; Jeanne O'Bryan

Staff Present: Katherine Sonnicks, Planning Director

Visitors Present: None

Call Meeting to Order: Brian Palaia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:08 am.

Public Forum: None.

Agenda Review: None.

Development Update: Katherine Sonnicks showed the plan for the "Marketplace Condos" on Centre Drive. She noted that they were working on getting their permits ready and would be going before the Selectboard on Monday to establish their surety for the manhole on Centre Drive. She also reminded the EDC that it is a four-story building that was approved in 2005. Brian Palaia remarked that since the project was approved so long ago, people might be surprised to see such a big building being constructed. Lou Mossey mentioned that it is good to finally see this type of building constructed, as the zoning has allowed for this for a long time. Katherine showed the plans for the mini-storage units on Gonyeau Road. This was the second mini-storage proposed for the area. She noted it was not a good use of industrial space as very few jobs are created with such a business. Katherine also noted that Jim Carroll had spoken to the Planning Department about his development proposal with either duplexes or single-family homes for the seven-acre parcel that was recently re-subdivided off Haydenberry Drive. Carroll is selling a four-acre parcel to David Schenk, who is working on developing elderly housing. The access from Haydenberry, as shown on the maps, would go away. Katherine noted that Jim Carroll's bagel bakery property is in rough shape and staff and the state fire marshal recently visited the site because of recent fires that have been set. Carroll says that he is trying to lease out the property. It was noted that there was not a for lease sign out of on the building.

Discussion: Economic Development Commission Goals for 2014: The EDC looked at the Economic Development goals spreadsheet, that had commentary and some prioritization of goals listed by some of the EDC members. Lou Mossey commented that under category, at least one goal had been prioritized, so those could be pulled out and some that overlapped could be combined. The Commission agreed that it made sense as a starting point to inventory all business in town. Planning staff will work on gathering this information. The Commission talked about how outreach/communication is a subset of marketing. Katherine Sonnicks conveyed that the Planning and Economic Department is working on reworking their website and this would be a good time to get the Economic Development site in functioning order. Brian

Palaia said that using the text from the business guide would be useful. Staff will work on this in the coming weeks.

Business Guide: The EDC looked further into the Business Guide. The discussed changes to the “Grit” text, the tax rate table, and the town’s assistance with the permitting process. With a few additional changes, they felt like the guide was in good shape.

Other Business: Andrew Bessy informed the EDC that he has a new job with his company, Air Boss, that requires 60% of his work to be in Canada. This may or may not affect his availability for future EDC meeting. The EDC was supportive of Andrew remaining on the Committee. Brian suggested looking into a potential replacement for Andrew. Andrew said there could be a future back up person, but for now he would be the main person. He also noted that the new president of his company is evaluating the Milton and all other locations and would potentially call on Brian to come out and meet the owner and show Milton’s support at some time in the future.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Andrew Bessy voted to approve the February 12, 2014 minutes, seconded by Lou Mossey. All present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Adjournment: Lou Mossey made a motion, seconded by John Gifford, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 a.m. All present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Palaia, Chair

Date Approved: 5/14/14



Katherine Sonnick, Planning Director