

Town of Bolton  
Economic Development Committee (EDC)  
Minutes to EDC Meeting  
Monday March 1, 2010  
Town Hall, Bolton  
Final

**Attendees:**

Jennifer Atwood Burney (Town Planner) Helene Demmer, Stephen George, John Karlton, Lysa Miller, Chris Nelson	James Riseborough, Reta Rupich, Eileen Schomp, Bruce Slater
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Not Present EDC members : Ray Grenier and Dan Weadock  
Not Present others: N/A

Next meeting: Tuesday March 16, Florence Sawyer School 7:30PM (100 Mechanic Street, Bolton)

**Minutes**

- First order of Business, **follow-up:**
  - Swearing-in: 3 members missing from last week – 2 of the 3 (James Riseborough and Bruce Slater) were sworn in before the meeting – Daniel Weadock still needs to be sworn in.
  - Ethics Test: Lysa Miller, James Riseborough and Dan Weadock still need to take and turn in the test.
  - Minutes approval: Feb-1-2010 minutes were approved with the revised mission statement, correction to Reta and Chris’s names as well as Jennifer’s ETA and grant work explanations.
- EDC Website Development:
  - Lysa Miller shared her thoughts on developing the EDC website
  - Concept was to have more than an Economic Development Plan website – wants a website which would provide a marketing push on choosing Bolton – with sections on “working, living and playing” in Bolton
  - Could potentially call it “Destination Bolton”
  - Thoughts on linking to the established Town of Bolton website
  - Want it to be user friendly, with lots of good pictures of different scenes throughout Bolton.

**Action – for website**

- Jennifer Atwood Burney to get information on what Hudson and Sudbury put in their local papers in order to collect Town photos (i.e. Photo Contest) - will review at next meeting
- Lysa Miller to set up a Facebook page – thought is to start compiling ideas/content/format leading into the website.
- Members should come with feedback, pictures, etc., or ideas which would work for the website.

- Questionnaire:
  - Chris Nelson reviewed the list of questions he compiled from the members suggestions with the goal to have a standard “script” when speaking with local businesses.
  - When questionnaire is complete, will assign members to the complete list of businesses in order to do calling/information gathering
- **Action – for questionnaire**
  - Review list of questions and come back to next meeting with comments – goal is to have final draft – along with list of businesses
- Grant information – Stephen George to work with Jennifer Atwood Burney in understanding what grants are available for use (for the businesses, the Town, etc)
- Meals/Hotel Tax:
  - The Board of Selectmen, prior to a Town Meeting, wants to get a recommendation from the EDC on our position on whether or not Bolton should implement an incremental meals/hotel tax.
  - Prior to the meeting, Jennifer had passed around the following documents: State of Massachusetts estimates of forecasted Town Revenue based on the implementation of the tax, status of which Massachusetts Towns have implemented the taxes and a Massachusetts reasoning behind the taxes.
  - Prior to the meeting Helene Demmer had pointed out via e-mail that the information passed around only presented the revenue forecast and did not discuss pros and cons.
  - The Board of Selectmen invites interested people to attend a meeting on Thursday, March 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bolton Town Hall to discuss the local meals/hotel tax option, which is being considered as a potential article for Annual Town Meeting.
  - Different views were discussed: Helene Demmer expressed her reasoning behind why one would not want to implement the taxes.
  - The group decided they needed more information to COLLECTIVELY come to an opinion.
- Smith Property – there is a bid being considered and the potential buyers have a 90 day due diligence time-period – more updates as they become available.