

Town of Bolton
Economic Development Committee (EDC)
Minutes to EDC Meeting with Michelle Ciccolo
Monday June 10, 2011
Town Hall, Bolton
Draft

Attendees:

Jennifer Burney, Helene Demmer, Chris Nelson	
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Non-member attendees: *Michele Ciccolo*

Met with our consultant Michelle Ciccolo who wanted to understand what the survey pointed out as our problem:

- Lack of amenities
- Vacancies exacerbating our problem
- High taxes

Michelle pointed out we needed to do the following:

- Need to publicize the highlights from the survey
- Understand our current situation – high tax rates & tax bill coupled with shrinking business base
- Need to communicate everything the EDC has done
 - Becoming an ETA
 - Working on design guidelines
 - Survey
 - Working on village overlay
 - Website
 - Town Planner efforts other than ETA
- Point out all reasons to do economic development, some not as obvious
 - Shrinking businesses/ loss of tax base
 - Need to lower commercial footprint
 - Lower commute/drive times for workers by providing local economic options
 - Provide local services and jobs
 - Buy locally
- Look at allowable usages and see what we need to change at planning board
- Develop Short, Medium and Long Term goals
 - Short could be ribbon cutting ceremony
 - Medium/Short could be setting up local 501C6 business association
 - Selling local advertising space
 - Setting up a local committee for outreach – golf tournaments
- EDC should be part of the solution – do not want to turn the town into an urban area