

AGENDA
GORHAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Wednesday February 13 , 2012 8 AM
Manager's Conference Room, 75 South Street

1. Approve minutes of January 16, 2013 meeting.

ATTACHMENT 1

2. 2013 Industrial and Economic Outlook.

I will be conducting a 15 minute power point presentation of the Economic Outlook and the Industrial market for southern Maine and Gorham as presented at the MEREDA conference in January.

3. Web Site Redesign.

Thanks to every one for their suggestions on a promotional tag line. Here are the suggestions I have received. In anticipation of the meeting, *please identify your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.* We will gather that data at the meeting and hopefully arrive at a consensus for the best one.

Choose your top three:

“Get with Gorham”

“Go Gorham”

“Grow with Gorham”

“We put the “Go” in Gorham”

“Ready, Set, ...Gorham!

GEDC at your Service

Gorham, a great place to live, work and grow

Gorham, A place to thrive

Gorham, great for business!

Gorham, your business opportunity center!

Gorham, poised for growth!

Gorham, the "Can Do" Town!

Gorham is growing places!

Gorham, a place for your business, a community for your family!

Gorham, come grow with us!

Gorham: Best for Business

Gorham: Community at its Best

In other developments, I have included a quote from a local log design firm for developing a logo and formatting for all our promotional material (new cards, letter head, etc). The cost is nearly identical to the prior quote. I also met with professional Photographer Cara Slifka, who will assist in taking new

photos around town, both business and residentially oriented. The photo portion will be long term as we want to capture all seasons.

Jason has provided me a template for the home page and it looks good. He will begin filling in content and imagery once he and I get together to finalize the layout.

4. Village Parking Public Hearing.

For now this will be the last update on the Parking Study. There are a couple of different studies and grant applications underway related to the overall parking plan of the village and specifically with the property acquired by the Town. At its last meeting Feb 5th, the Town Council authorized the Town Manager to solicit proposals from engineering firms for the design of a parking plan for Gorham Village that could be incorporated into the Gorham Village Master Plan. We are also applying for a planning grant through CDBG to also update the Village Master Plan.

5. Business Assistance Update.

a) Martins Point Health Care

While Martins Point has contacted the Town and some aspects of this proposed project is public information, I will update the board in person as to the exact status of this retention effort to maintain confidentiality.

b) Mega Industries

This industrial park manufacturer of microwave transmission equipment for the military and private industry has applied for a 7,400 sq. ft. expansion of their 30,000 sq. ft. building to accommodate growth and new contracts. They have already had a preliminary hearing before the Planning Board and should get final approval in February. They will add 8 jobs to their 50 employee work force.

Update:

Their project was approved at the Planning Board meeting on Feb 4th, including the ability (with staff review) to adjust the plan to reflect expanded setbacks if the Planning Board and Council decide to approve that recommendation.

c) Helical Solutions

The precision tool maker is growing again and has applied for a site plan amendment to add 3,955 square feet to their plant in the industrial park. Initial review is expected at the planning board in February.

Update: This expansion was approved by the Planning Board at its Feb 4th meeting.

d) Cumberland Farms, South Gorham Crossing

After many discussions with the Council and Ordinance Committee and several plan revisions, the Council voted to forward a request from Cumberland Farms to amend the Hans Hansen, Inc. contract zone to the Planning Board for public hearing and their recommendation. This is great news as it gives the indication that the council will support the changes Cumberland Farms has asked for; the major one allowing gas pumps in the front of the building facing County Road. The company provided renderings of the building and site and it looks attractive. I think the project will fit in well in the area.

6. Announcements.

Chris Hall of the Greater Portland Chamber has forwarded info about the Business After Hours at the USM Gorham Campus. It will be Feb. 28th from 5-7pm at the Brooks Student Center (1st Floor). You can learn more about it at www.portlandregion.com. I encourage everyone to attend.

7. Next Meeting.

8. Adjournment.