

**HARVARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 15, 2011**

Chair Rich Maiore opened the meeting at 7:30pm in the Fireplace Room of Old Library

**Members Present:** Rich Maiore (Chair), Bruce Stamski, Jim Higgins

**Members Absent:** Al Combs, Elaine Lazarus

**Others Present:** None

**Approval of Minutes**

Maiore made a motion to approve the minutes of January 12, 2011 as amended. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion. Maiore will send minutes to Town Hall staff for posting.

**Report of EDC 2/9 meeting with Joint Boards**

Maiore and Stamski provided a brief report of their presentation to Joint Boards. The presentation was well received by Joint Boards. There was agreement with EDC's five priority tasks. There were several specific questions regarding ETA status. Maiore answered many of them but suggested the Planning Board submit ETA related questions to EDC to respond to. There was general agreement among Planning Board to support ETA warrant article pending the answer to the questions. Maiore will forward questions and minutes to the EDC team to review and respond.

Given that numerous questions from the Planning Board were covered in the EDAT 4/10 report, Maiore suggested they review that document. Maiore offered to send to the Planning Board.

Maiore requested to Joint Boards that a member of EDC be part of the Master Plan steering committee which will be convened in the next month or two. Both boards agreed. It was agreed to table selection of who will represent EDC on Master Plan committee until next EDC meeting.

**Infrastructure Updates**

Stamski provided update on his research regarding possible Devens sewer connection. He is arranging meeting with Devens engineering to discuss possible connection options. He will look to invite Tim Bragan or Bill Johnson to join in the meeting and report back to EDC.

On a separate issue, Stamski asked if EDC knew the tax rates of surrounding towns. It was agreed it would be good information to have. Maiore will find this.

**Communication Updates**

Higgins provided update on outreach to current c-district businesses. He said the meetings and discussions on a whole have been supportive and helpful. Some business owners have provided great insights, while others. It was agreed that the goal is to wrap up the interviews in the next month or two. At that point, EDC would then discuss the compiled feedback at its April meeting and determine what the feedback means and what—if any—recommendations the committee should make to BOS. The goal is provided a report to Joint Boards by May.

Maiore stressed it was important to include more high-profile businesses such as Dunkin Donuts and Hirsch (Grapevine). It was also agreed to include Gokey-Quinn Bus co. to the list.

Higgins also discussed the challenge in building an extensive email database for EDC to utilize to communicate to all of interested Harvard residents. Maiore thought EDC will need to conduct

outreach to each town committee seeking to share email lists with the goal of creating a larger list.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**Next Meeting:**

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm Fireplace Room of Old Library