

Jaffrey Economic Development Council

Draft Minutes 3/23/11

9:00 am Town Office

Present: Kathy Batchelder, Chair, Jim Dumont, Don MacIsaac, Bill Schofield

Guest: Ed Merrell

Staff: Jo Anne Carr

1. Recap Town Meeting

Kathy provided a short update on the results of Town Meeting. The combined Town Office/Community Center failed as did the operating budget. Without an amendment from the floor to recommend some spending article, the Town is left without authorization to spend. A petition to Superior Court will be made for a special Town Meeting tentatively set for May 19. The Budget Committee will schedule a hearing on the budget and proposed revisions.

2. Score Training : Ed Merrell

Ed discussed the opportunity for SCORE to present workshops for small businesses. How to Start your own Business, Internet Marketing and Accounting are three currently offered. Kathy offered that TEAM Jaffrey is surveying businesses for what support services they need. Workshops could take place in May – June or September. Discussion ensued on additional means of drawing business to Town – capitalizing on the summer/fall tourist trade. The websites Groupon <http://www.groupon.com/boston/deals/woodbound-inn> and Local Deal <http://www.localdeal.com/mونadnock/> are examples of marketing opportunities available to our businesses. This is a good partnership possibility for TEAM Jaffrey, the Chamber and EDC.

3. Status Reports

a. *Elite Laundry* The revised Remedial Action Plan and Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives will be available early April with the Public comment period extending into May. The Public Meeting is April 28.

b. *Stone Bridge Water Mains* Bid documents are prepared with consideration for reducing the cost through an add/deduct alternative. EDC members felt that this was not a wise choice as the potential cost savings would not be worth the long term impact of an incomplete project.

c. *Industrial District Signage* pending

d. *Route 202/124 Traffic Project* Jo Anne noted that potential cuts in funding for the state 10 year plan could impact the status of the Jaffrey project. A letter from the Selectmen and EDC will be drafted and sent to state representatives expressing concern and continued interest in promoting the town traffic improvements.

e. *Economic & Labor Market Information* Jo Anne shared a survey of labor market data for NH communities – Keene and Jaffrey were selected to compare. The highest wage jobs included manufacturing, professional & technical services, and goods producing industries. The data also showed that Jaffrey was competitive with Keene in terms of wages and number of jobs taking into account the population difference. EDC suggested that a more detailed report on the economic impact of certain business in town would be appropriate.

5. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: April 27, 2011
 9AM Town Office