**Minutes of the Economic Development Committee**

**Meeting January 6, 2016**

Attendees: Erik Espling, Chuck Osgood, Sarah Zmistowski, Pat Rice,Judy Horten, guests David Milan, Director of Economic Development-Orono and Don MacKay, chair of the Veazie Planning Board.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. A motion to approve the minutes of the December 10th meeting was made by Sarah and seconded by Erik, the minutes were approved unanimously.

* **Discussion with Dave Milan:** A wide ranging discussion ensued about how Dave tries to get everyone on the same page in order to have a successful economic development effort. He drew upon his time at Bucksport as examples such as surveying the people on what they want on a regular basis. Getting support from the town council members so that the economic plan is unified. Discussion took place about getting input for the Comprehensive Plan and including goals in the plan that are regularly reviewed to see if they have been accomplished. Our discussion was wide ranging and at the end, the committee would like to work cooperatively with Dave/Orono when possible.
* **Comprehensive Plan:** As a follow up to December’s meeting, we invited Don MacKay to give us and update on what the Planning Committee has done on the Comprehensive plan and to develop a data request for the State’s Municipal Planning Assistance Program. The following were presented to Don by the committee:
* 1. Employers/employment in **Veazie**,
* 2. Type of establishment i.e. retail, wholesale, manufacturing, construction etc**. Veazie**
* 3.Comparative Per capita and median household income- **Veazie**, Bangor, Orono, Brewer, State average
* 4. Unemployment rate for Veazie vs. Penobscot County and State numbers
* 5. Home based businesses Veazie
* 5. General economic outlook for Bangor region
* 6. Comparative population change 1980- 1990- 2000- 2015 (growth rate) **Veazie,** Bangor, Orono, Brewer, State
* 7. Age distribution
* 8. Household size
* 9. Household type
* 10. Household income and sources of income
* 11. Educational attainment
* 12. Population projections for **Veazie**
* 13. Population projections for Bangor, Brewer, Orono
* **Postponement of December 10th Action items:** Due to time constraints, many of the action items from the December 10th meeting will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Next meeting:** - The next meeting date was set for February 3th at 6:30pm. A motion to adjourn was put forth by Erik and seconded by Sarah; the meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm