

Wayland Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, Feb 11, 2016  
Wayland Town Building

Present: Rebecca M. Stanizzi, P. Jean Milburn, John T. Pugh, James Grumbach, Sean P. Fair, Frank A. Panaccio

Public Comment: Cherry Karlson, BOS, greeted the group.

Reminder: Becky reminded the group that Open Meeting Law training is due. We need to take the training online.

Wayland Business Association. Sean reported that the group is unlikely to act on the swipe card concept for senior discounts in the near future.

Hardware store opening/PR. Jean reported that the traffic at the hardware store and its associated housewares store has been slow. The housewares store is experimenting with some new product lines and phasing out ones that have not proven to be popular. The owner is very interested in building his paint sales with local contractors and has been putting a lot of effort into reaching that group.

Finnerty's – Jim Grumbach has stayed in touch with the developers. The developers are in court appealing a ruling. Jim anticipates that 3 months will pass before there is a decision.

Tree USA status. Sean reported that no action had been taken on this yet.

River's Edge Wayland RFP and Bid Process. Becky reported that REAC had a meeting to which developers were invited to share their concerns about the first-round bid process. It was clear that many developers are interested in the property but they felt that there was too much risk in assessing costs for 1) the sewage treatment plant, 2) bringing water to the site, 3) processing the road waste material. These concerns can be addressed by altering the format for the bids and giving the developers the opportunity to estimate a range of potential costs on these items and then confirm them with a period of due diligence if they are the preferred bidder.

Senior/Community Center. Jean reported that CoA/CCAC will submit an article to the Spring 2016 Town Meeting Warrant, asking for appropriations to create architectural drawings and engineering plans for the Municipal Pad. If approved, the project will need to be presented to TM at a future meeting to approve construction funds.

Gas Station at Mel's Plaza. John Pugh will follow up on this topic, reach out to potential users, and report findings at a future meeting.

Cherry Karlson reported that Lynch Landscaping wants to come back to Wayland. If we hear about an available and suitable site, we should get in touch with them. Cherry also discussed wastewater capacity as a continuing issue for Town Center and the Whole Foods Plaza.

Reportedly, Whole Foods will move out by the end of summer and Fresh Market will move into the space and take 50% of the former CVS space as well. Fresh Market is a company in the South that has opened two stores in New England, one in Manchester NH and the other in Hingham MA.

There has been continued discussion of a possible co-working facility in town. Such a facility would require between 4-5 K sf of space.

The next meeting will be on Thursday March 17.

Jim made a motion to adjourn. Jean seconded the motion. Passed 6-0

Adjourned at 9:17 a.m.