

EDC Meeting Minutes – Sept. 15, 2017 - Economic Development Committee - Wayland MA

**TOWN OF WAYLAND - TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
NOTICE OF MEETINGS OF TOWN BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS**

Posted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law

NAME OF BOARD/COMM: **Wayland Economic Development Committee**

FILED BY: Sarkis Sarkisian, Town Planner

DATE OF MEETING: Friday, September 15, 2017

TIME OF MEETING: 8:00 a.m.

PLACE OF MEETING: Wayland Town Building

NOTE: Notices and agendas are to be posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meetings excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Please keep in mind the Town Clerk's business hours of operation and make the necessary arrangements to be sure this notice is received and stamped in an adequate amount of time.

AGENDA

Note: Items may not be discussed in the order listed or at the specific time estimated.

- 1) Public Comment
- 2) Approve Meeting Minutes: Aug 2nd
- 3) River's Edge Wayland
 - a) River's Edge Advisory Committee
- 4) Business Community Issues
 - a) Town Center storefronts
 - b) Town Branding
 - c) Rail Trail update
 - d) Wayland Business Association
 - e) Route 20 Wastewater
 - f) Fresh Market / Former Whole Foods site update
- 5) Town Center Municipal Pad
 - a) Senior/Community Center update
- 6) Adjourn

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Minutes
Economic Development Committee
Town of Wayland MA
Planning Office
September 15, 2017

Present: Seth Roman, Jim Grumbach, Frank Panaccio,

Prospective Members: Kamal Namou (approved by BOS but not sworn in yet), Andy Oppenheim (approved by BOS but not sworn in yet)

Guests: Sarkis Sarkisian

Frank called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. in the Planning Office at Town Building.

Public Comment:

Sarkis

- The owner of 70 Main St. would like to do something creative with the building and is seeking any available funds to help
- A 12 acre parcel could be acquired by the town by the end of the year
 - There is a trail through it that will connect to Cow Commons
- Municipal Parcel: Cherry Karlson will host a town meeting regarding the parcel
- 20 Wayland will potentially gift Town Green to Wayland; this proposal will go to Town Meeting in November
- Plan for fields at 91 Oxbow got appealed; lawsuit claims Town of Wayland will “be overburdening the field”

Frank

- Provided summary of August 18th meeting with Zurich & National Development
- Sharmeen Dossani attended from Zurich, and David Costello and Erika Clarke attended from National Development
- Zurich/National Development discussed plans to fill the Town Center with new retailers
- Seeking to add a new restaurant and bring in a diverse mix of new retailers that would be attractive to Wayland residents

Fresh Market: (Note agenda items discussed in varied order vs agenda, given several of the topics arose during Public Comment)

- Fresh Market is no longer coming to Wayland; the company is having financial difficulties but is still responsible for the lease
- Fresh Market signed a 15 year lease and is required to make improvements
- Seth discussed that the company is owned by a private equity firm, and grocery stores are afraid of Amazon; Fresh Market has ceased expanding new stores
- Roche Brothers is not interested in the location

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- Sarki sent Trader Joes a write-up of location, and he was asked to wait a couple of weeks for a response
- Wegmans opening in Natick (2 floors)
- Be Happy is having some difficulties since Whole Foods closed; there was a suggestion to possibly lease space in the hardware store

Rail Trail: (Note agenda items discussed in varied order vs agenda, given several of the topics arose during Public Comment)

- Construction is still waiting on a signature from the Secretary of Environmental Affairs at the MBTA
- It will probably start in October
- Wayland is applying for another grant with the DCR for the wooden bridge along Route 20 near Russell's

Wayland Business Association: (Note agenda items discussed in varied order vs agenda, given several of the topics arose during Public Comment)

- Dave Larson (Joint Ventures Physical Therapy) is no longer part of the WBA because it is not helping to develop his business
- There are some mixed opinions on whether the WBA should be a social organization for local businesses or more of a business development organization
- Jim suggested potentially using a mediator to help the group come to an agreement

Meeting Minutes: (Note agenda items discussed in varied order vs agenda, given several of the topics arose during Public Comment)

- Minutes from August 2, 2017 meeting were approved 3-0

River's Edge: (Note agenda items discussed in varied order vs agenda, given several of the topics arose during Public Comment)

- Asbestos was discovered
- Wood Partners is still going through due diligence

Town Center Storefronts: No new comment

Town Branding: No new comment

Route 20 Wastewater: No new comment

Town Center Municipal Pad: Discussed above in Public Comment

Jim had to leave the meeting early

Other Public Comment:

- Sarki mentioned that construction on Route 20 will begin next week to build new sidewalks
- Kamal discussed improvements to the bridge on Stonebridge Rd.
 - o Sarki mentioned that the Town is funding a permit for improvements

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- Fresh water mussels were found in the water and need to be managed properly

The next EDC meeting will be held on Friday, October 13th at 8am.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04am, 2-0 vote

Respectfully submitted, Frank Panaccio