

Town of Westminster

MASSACHUSETTS 01473 FROM THE OFFICE OF THE **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** Phone: (978) 874-7414

Minutes from the first meeting of the Westminster Economic Development Committee, held on: July 24, 2012, 7:00 PM in Room 222 at Town Hall.

Present: Joe Flanagan, Selectmen's Representative, Bud Taylor, Planning Board Representative, Joseph Serio, Richelle Brown, Jeffrey Crowley and Stephen Wallace, Town Planner.

Absent: Peter Monroe and Norma Hale

Guests in attendance: Sheryl Vaillette

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

The Committee began its meeting with a round of introductions, and then each member took some time to discuss what they thought the charge of the committee should be.

From there, the Committee discussed several potential projects to pursue:

- <u>Better signage</u>, particularly in the Town Center.
- <u>Outreach to local businesses</u>, this will be an ongoing effort for the committee.
- <u>Marketing materials for the Town's three 43D Priority Development Sites</u>, the Committee members agreed that this isn't its highest priority, but the Town Planner will work on this as time permits.
- <u>Review the Worcester Business Journal</u>, the Journal periodically publishes a list of the "Top 100 Companies in Massachusetts" edition. The Committee will sit down and look over the list together, identify those businesses it thinks would be a good fit for Westminster and then prepare a solicitation letter with background materials.
- <u>Marketing the Town through a brochure (paper and on-line)</u> The Committee decided to pursue a brochure that would publicize the Town's many attractions and businesses. The brochure will cover such topics as:
 - ---- Town events
 - ---- Historic resources
 - ---- Recreation resources
 - ---- Restaurants
 - ----- Lodging

- ---- Arts and culture ---- Health and fitness ---- Agriculture
- <u>November Economic Development Forum</u>: The Committee will work with the Master Plan Committee to plan for a November economic development forum.

The last item of business was the election of officers: Joe Serio was unanimously elected Chairman and Jeffrey Crowley was unanimously elected Vice Chairman. Town Planner Steve Wallace agreed to serve as secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

The Committee's next meeting will be held on <u>Wednesday night, August 29, 2012, 6:00 PM in</u> <u>Room 222 at the Town Hall.</u>