



Town of Westminister

MASSACHUSETTS 01473

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Phone: (978) 874-7414

Economic Development Committee – Meeting Minutes for April 3, 2013

Present: Richelle Brown, Joe Serio, Norma Hale, and Bud Taylor. Staff: Stephen Wallace, Town Planner.

Guests: Lorraine Emerson and Brent MacAloney from the 250th Celebration Committee.

Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM

Motion to approve previous meeting minutes, AIF

The first order of business was a discussion with our guests about the logistics involved in planning for a town-wide festival. Chief MacAloney and Ms. Emerson described how they planned the various events that comprised the Town's 250th Celebration in 2009. Logistical issues discussed included: fund raising, expenses, advertising, public safety, timing, locations, and possible activities. The EDC is considering holding a day-long festival for the Town sometime next year and have begun to lay the groundwork for this endeavor. The input received from the members of the Celebration Committee was very helpful in this regard.

Next on the agenda was a review of a full draft of the Master Plan's Economic Development chapter. Some minor changes were offered and accepted. The major discussion revolved around how the Town should deal with large-scale development proposals that necessitate significant changes to current zoning. The EDC members unanimously approved the draft chapter pending the agreed upon edits. The chapter will be finalized at the 4/17 Master Plan Committee meeting and then posted on the Town's website.

The next item was a review of the updated local business inventory. Committee members were charged with reviewing those entries that had no phone numbers or web sites to determine if any were still in business. It was decided that rather than review the list at the meeting, anyone with edits to the list would stop into Town Hall during the days when our intern was working and go through those edits directly with her. Once the list of local businesses is finalized, the Committee will start working on a questionnaire to send out to those businesses with a physical presence (as opposed to the numerous home businesses in Town).

The last order of business was cancelling the July EDC meeting.

The EDC will meet again next on Wednesday May 1, 2013, at 7:00 PM. Town Planner plans to invite a representative from the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council to attend as a special guest.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.