

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
September 22, 1993

Page 1

PRESENT: Shirley Ganem, Chairman; Tony Triolo, Barbara Jackson, Paul Kimball, Bill Wiebe, Tim Sullivan, Bob Garland; Amanda Simpson, ex officio

ABSENT: Andy Milligan, Bob Grott

Chairman Shirley Ganem called the meeting to order at 7:35 in the conference room at Wickers Sportswear, and started with committee reports.

ROUTE 28 COMMITTEE

Barbara Jackson told the group that the Route 28 Committee was meeting on a double-time schedule with their consultant, Rick Chellman, and hope to have their work completed by October 15. She asked the Planner for her comments on Chellman's drafts of the ordinance. Simpson has participated in the committee's discussions on many occasions, but recently has been too tied up with other Town projects and assignments to have the time to give.

Simpson expressed concerns that the plan being prepared doesn't deal with all the details of specific lot divisions and ordinance requirements. It's got to be easy for the public to read and understand. She feels that the body of the ordinance and its ideas and many details are very good, but trying to administer it is likely to be a real problem. She really needs a good block of time to devote to this, but unless the Selectmen and Town Manager can relieve her of other responsibilities or hire additional Planning Office staff help, there is no time.

Paul Kimball and Tim Sullivan both emphasized the importance of getting this work done, so an ordinance would be ready for Town Meeting in March. The Route 28 committee intends to be finished by October 15 and will present their recommendations to the EDC and the Planning Board. It's up to them to make the final decisions. Ganem reported that the Planning Board had set October 26 as the date for the PB and EDC to discuss the Route 28 ordinance. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. at the Wolfeboro Library. This will be a draft document, and will probably need some additional work.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Amanda Simpson was asked to report on this in the absence of Andy Milligan. Their #1 priority right now is to transfer the Business Park property to the BDC. (Ganem interjected that Andy had asked to be on the Selectmen's October 20 agenda to discuss this.) Another priority is to get in touch with State agencies to find out what help is available. They also plan to contact existing local businesses and work out ways to help them with expansion plans.

Information that is really needed is a "labor shed" study for this area--information about the potential work force. Businesses want to know this, and also want to know about available office space and land. The

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
September 22, 1993

Page 2

available information about the labor force is only county-wide, and doesn't tell anything about the workers except that they are employed or unemployed. It doesn't tell specific information such as education, or particular skills or training. A realtor could lead collection of the information on available office space and land. Several people volunteered Bob Grott (who was absent) for this task. Or members of the Chamber of Commerce could do it.

Another goal of the BDC is to make contact with other business development corporations and various support agencies. Ossipee is working on this. It might be valuable to join forces with neighboring towns and regions to apply for grant money.

Ganem said she sees the BDC's role as going after funding and available land (hard numbers.) The other concerns--like helping of local businesses-- would be EDC's role.

Simpson said that another long-term goal would be to set up loan criteria--to use when the BDC has money to loan. Ganem suggested inviting representatives of all the local banks to meet with the BDC, as that would get more attention than visiting them one by one.

The BDC has now moved their meetings to the morning.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Bill Wiebe reported that they have been sorting out the roles of the various entities in Town which are involved in planning and carrying out plans--Selectmen, Planning Board, Town Manager, Town Planner, Economic Development Committee, Wolfeboro 2000 Committees, etc. They all overlap, as they're all looking at the future of Wolfeboro. Next step is considering the products, and then the mechanisms which will produce them, without all the groups spinning their wheels.

The sub-committee (Wiebe, Grott and Ganem) wants to develop a matrix of group efforts to provide some overall direction for using funds and efforts. They are particularly anxious to keep the public informed about what is going on, and the planning efforts.

Focus is on improving the quality of life. What is our vision for the Town--its appearance and physical environment? Social environment, education, business climate, cultural environment? Customer orientation for Town management, support for small businesses, better services for citizens and potential citizens, public safety (sidewalks, parking, transportation, etc), accommodations and restaurants, better promotion of Wolfeboro throughout whole NH area, maintaining the appearance of properties.

There was discussion of how the subcommittee could chart this plan--matrix or flow chart, perhaps using colored pencils to identify participants and

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
September 22, 1993

Page 3

goals.

Shirley Ganem announced that the first Business Seminar, on Workman's Compensation, will be held the last week in October or the first week in November. She's waiting for a definite date from the State. It will be an early morning, breakfast gathering.

Amanda Simpson said UNH is offering a one-day course in marketing public entities on October 19th. The cost is \$90 per person, and it sounds very worthwhile. Anyone who wishes to go should let Ruth know in the Planning Office.

Ganem asked if the committee would like to add the new First NH Bank Manager to their group since Mike Toomey has been transferred. All felt there should be a banker on EDC, but suggested trying a representative from one of the other banks. Perhaps it should be someone from the school board, or the superintendent of schools.

The next EDC meeting will be held on October 6 in the Planning Office Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik H. Arctander
Secretary

