

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 2, 1994

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PRESENT: Chairman Shirley Ganem; Bob Garland, Bill Wiebe, Barbara Jackson, Paul Kimball, Tony Triolo; Town Manager Paul J. Skowron

ABSENT: Andy Milligan, Bob Grott

Chairman Shirley Ganem called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. in the Planning Office Conference Room, and asked for reports on current projects.

Bill Wiebe reported that the Economic Strategy Committee had met last week. Bob Grott would like to coordinate the efforts of two separate groups which are interested in doing something about downtown Wolfeboro. At this time the members wish to remain anonymous.

The Chairman said that she had met with one of the groups which is looking for ways to bring new businesses into town; they are willing to help with money. The group is not looking just at downtown, but also out on Route 28. Ganem is talking with the sewer department, to find out the cost of extending the sewer system out on Route 28 along Lake Wentworth. By 1995 the State and the Federal Government will push for legislation protecting the lakes. If the sewer line were extended out there, that would open a very desirable area for development without endangering Lake Wentworth's water quality. This group feel that the Town is dying on the vine and they don't want to wait for the Town to take some action.

There was discussion of small treatment plants, and of housing developments which have their own off-site septic fields.

Back to the strategic plan - Wiebe said that they have taken everyone's ideas and listed 15 of the most promising. Now it's time to go ahead with writing the presentation and getting everyone focussed on it. He sees the presentation as a cheer-leading function. We need a document to say where we're going. It would suggest things we can do to make the Town more attractive to the people who live here and the tourists and service people we need.

Wiebe said he had spoken with the Community Renaissance people, and they have a new program called "Words to Act On." Verne Crosier is running this, and he has said we're eligible for six more hours of his time, which he will arrange at our convenience.

There was discussion of trying to bring new businesses into Town. Tony Triolo, speaking as a businessman, said there was a perception that you can't get anything done business-wise in Wolfeboro. It was suggested that the way to recruit business is the same way you would recruit a promising quarterback - to go after decision-makers.

TRAC COMMITTEE - Barbara Jackson reported that they need sponsorship from the Town, and will need some staff support if they qualify for Federal grant money.

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Members asked the Town Manager about the Consultant that is being sought to do the Land Use chapter of the Master Plan, and Skowron assured them that this person would be given the full range of planning and resource material that has been collected. EDC input will also be sought for the Master Plan, and the Land Use chapter.

PROJECTS TO GET STARTED ON

1. Develop a simplified user-friendly procedure for developing property. Make it easy to do business in Wolfeboro. Ultimately it should be a manual to tell you how to work your way through the system. There should be a point man in town to shepherd CEO's of prospective businesses around Town. The Town Manager should play a prominent role in this process. Tony Triolo will work on the manual, with Paul Kimball.

2. Develop a data base for land zoned for development. Barbara Jackson will work on this, and would like Realtor Bob Grott's help. Grott was not present.

The Chairman asked if members preferred a new meeting day for EDC, that would avoid having Planning Board, EDC, and Selectmen's meetings all in the same week. After some discussion, it was decided to continue meeting on the first and third Wednesday mornings at 7:30.

Tony Triolo reported that people have suggested to him that Wolfeboro would be an ideal location for high-tech companies working their way North from the former Pease Air Force Base.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erick H. Artander

Secretary

THE NEXT EDC MEETING WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16.