

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

MINUTES

Members Present: Frank Giebutowski, Acting Chairman, Kristi Ginter, Selectmen's Representative, Mike Cooper, Mary DeVries, Tony Triolo, Dave Tower, Members.

Members Absent: Gene Leone, Vice-Chairman, Denise Roy-Palmer, Bob Reid, Members.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Acting Chairman Giebutowski opened the meeting at 8:03 AM.

Consideration of Minutes

December 9, 2008

Corrections:

Page 1, New Business, CEDS; 2nd paragraph; strike "such" & replace with "to the LRPC is appointed to the BOS".

It was moved by Dave Tower and seconded by Mike Cooper to approve the December 9, 2008 Wolfeboro Economic Development Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Discussion Items

➤ **Review education plan for warrant article and assign roles**

Following discussion of how to educate the public regarding the warrant article, the Committee decided to schedule a public forum on Wednesday, February 11th; location to be announced. The following committee members have been assigned to expand on talking points; Kristi Ginter – opportunity to citizens, Dave Tower – explanation as to why this type of study is a proper role for local government to sponsor as opposed to other organizations., Tony Triolo – increase in commercial real estate tax base, Bob Reid – "the time is now".

Mike Cooper stated he had a conversation with Paul Zimmerman, local business owner, who questioned him about the market study. He stated Mr. Zimmerman commented that he is against the market study because enough information is known to do what needs to be done. He stated Mr. Zimmerman feels that economic development is not an issue rather it is the challenge of doing business in Wolfeboro. He stated it is still important to determine the type of need and know what type of Economic Development Director to hire.

Frank Giebutowski stated that a single view of data does not exist to support "what is known"; that everyone has their own set of data.

Tony Triolo stated it is a question of attitude by Town government.

The Committee discussed the opportunity to invite several key business owners to an EDC meeting.

Frank Giebutowski stated the argument for an Economic Development Director has to be based on economic strategy. He stated he would submit a letter to the editor and encouraged other to do so as well.

➤ **Review proposal evaluation process and appoint subcommittee to review two bidders**

Frank Giebutowski stated the bidders, except for Mettee and Arnett, would be notified that they are not being considered. He stated he and Ms. Roy-Palmer would follow up with reference checks by mid-February (prior to interviews). He requested an additional subcommittee be formed to interview the candidates.

Dave Tower recommended asking the candidates to provide examples of Towns that have gone through the process and have benefited from such.

It was moved by Dave Tower and seconded by Mike Cooper to adjourn the January 13, 2009 Economic Development Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.

EDC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2009 @ 8 AM at the Offices of Leone, McDonnell & Roberts.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley