

# WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

## MINUTES

**Members Present:** Frank Giebutowski, Acting Chairman, Gene Leone, Vice-Chairman, Kristi Ginter, Selectmen's Representative, Mike Cooper, Bob Reid, Dave Tower, Mary DeVries, Denise Roy-Palmer, Tony Triolo, Members.

**Staff Absent:** Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

*Acting Chairman Giebutowski opened the meeting at 8:00 AM.*

### **Consideration of Minutes**

**March 24, 2009**

**It was moved by Kristi Ginter and seconded by Tony Triolo to approve the March 24, 2009 Wolfeboro Economic Development Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.**

### **Discussion Items**

#### ➤ **Funding for Economic Development Strategic Plan**

Frank Giebutowski stated a Community Impact Grant application for \$7,500 has been submitted and noted that if awarded the grant, the money would be available in June 2009. He stated Phase I deliverable would cost \$9,000 and noted the Committee would continue to look for additional commitments to fund the plan.

Mary DeVries questioned when the money would have to be spent by.

Denise Roy-Palmer stated that if the funds are not spent within one year, the funds would be returned.

Kristi Ginter questioned whether the Town should accept the funding in their name rather than WEDCO's name, particularly if the Town intends to take and utilize the results of the study.

Frank Giebutowski stated WEDCO is a 501C3 organization and can apply for and hold funds however, is unclear as to whether the funding should go through WEDCO or the Town. He stated legal opinion needs to be sought regarding such.

Denise Roy-Palmer questioned the perceived opinion by the public relating to whether the Economic Development Strategic Plan is the Town's or WEDCO's.

Mary DeVries stated she believes if the Committee is successful in raising \$9,000 then the remainder of the money (\$14,500) should remain in the Town's budget because the EDC is a Town appointed committee.

Bob Reid stated he is concerned that the Town be associated with any funding related to the plan since the people of the Town of Wolfeboro voted not to fund the warrant article. He stated the Town should not be involved with raising funds for the study.

Kristi Ginter stated the people voted not to expend the funds for the study. She stated the Town is not expending funds rather, the EDC is finding alternative funding sources. She stated that if WEDCO receives the funding then it is her opinion that the EDC should no longer be involved with the study; noting resources from the Town would no longer be available.

Dave Tower requested the Committee seek guidance and direction from the BOS as to what their vision of the EDC is.

Following further discussion, the Board agreed to the following prior to making a decision; seek legal guidance regarding the acceptance of grant funding and speak to both Rob Houseman and the BOS.

➤ **Arnett proposed modifications to the project**

Frank Giebutowski verified receipt, via email, of the modifications to the study by Stu Arnett. He stated the SWAT Analysis was removed from the scope of the study.

➤ **Appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

**It was moved by Kristi Ginter and seconded by Tony Triolo to appoint Frank Giebutowski as Chairman of the Wolfeboro Economic Development Committee.**

*Discussion of the motion:*

Frank Giebutowski stated he was disappointed in the result of the ballot and feels personally responsible for the failure of such. He stated a lot of the work falls on the chairman and believes the work needs to be distributed amongst the members of the Committee.

Mary DeVries recommended the Committee have an organizational meeting next month noting specific roles and responsibilities of the members.

**Kristi Ginter withdrew her motion. Tony Triolo withdrew his second.**

**It was moved by Bob Reid and seconded by Kristi Ginter to table the appointment of Chairman and Vice-Chairman until the May 12, 2009 meeting.**

**It was moved by Bob Reid and seconded by Tony Triolo to adjourn the April 14, 2009 Economic Development Committee meeting. All members voted in favor.**

*EDC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May12, 2009 @ 8 AM at the Offices of Leone, McDonnell & Roberts.*

*There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley

*\*\*Minutes were compiled by use of notes taken by Mary DeVries and the digital recorder.*