

WOLFEBORO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

December 14, 2011

MINUTES

Members Present: Paul O'Brien, Co-Chairperson, Denise Roy-Palmer, Co-Chairperson, Linda Murray, Selectman's Representative, Charles Wibel, Mike Cooper, Frank Giebutowski, Bob Ness, Members.

Members Absent: Tony Triolo, Mary DeVries, Members.

Staff Present: Lee Ann Keathley, Secretary.

Co-Chairperson Paul O'Brien opened the meeting at 8:00 AM.

Consideration of Minutes

November 8, 2011

Corrections:

Page 1, Open House for Commercial Properties, 2nd paragraph; strike "impotence", replace with "impetus"

It was moved by Bob Ness and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to approve the November 8, 2011 Economic Development Committee minutes as amended. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

November 30, 2011

It was moved by Bob Ness and seconded by Frank Giebutowski to approve the November 30, 2011 Economic Development Committee minutes as submitted. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Co-Chairpersons Report

➤ Meeting with Les McLeod, Huggins Hospital

Frank Giebutowski stated Denise Roy-Palmer, Paul O'Brien, Linda Murray and he met with Les McLeod, Huggins Hospital and discussed various issues. He stated Huggins Hospital closed its transitional care facility and moved the people to the main part of the hospital (reallocated the beds) because the transitional care facility was only 50% occupied and the main part of the hospital was only 50% occupied. He stated Mountain View and Sunbridge have established transitional care. He stated reorganization would have an impact on employment.

Paul O'Brien stated there is an adequate supply of beds. He stated he learned about issues in regard to NH healthcare.

Mike Cooper stated the health insurance aspect is also changing.

Paul O'Brien stated one of the largest sources of margins for hospitals is labs/diagnostics and that global payment is going to become an issue.

Mike Cooper stated consumer driven healthcare plans continue to grow.

Linda Murray stated Huggins Hospital is not a site of service; noting low satisfaction from customers. She stated the hospital based the addition on projected revenue for the next ten years.

The Committee agreed to meet with Mr. McLeod again in six months.

Discussion Item

➤ Economic Development Summit

Denise Roy-Palmer stated she ordered guides from the ED Summit and will distribute once received.

Charles Wibel noted the need to determine the kind of industry/business that would generate jobs and a business the community can be proud of.

Denise Roy-Palmer stated if businesses are attracted to Wolfeboro then there needs to be a place to locate those businesses.

Linda Murray stated the Planning Board opened up the tract along Pine Hill Road.

Denise Roy-Palmer questioned whether Rob Houseman should attend a meeting to discuss that area.

Paul O'Brien questioned how the Town can become more visible on the internet and recommended getting a diagnostic of how the Town rates on the web.

Mike Cooper stated Google Analytics provides such information.

The Committee discussed such in addition to links.

Bob Ness recommended the involvement of the Town's Information Systems Advisory Committee.

The Committee discussed the types of businesses/opportunities for Wolfeboro such as the site of a junior college, pre-nursing programs, folk music museum and museums in general.

Selectmen / Town Manager Report

Linda Murray stated the Chamber of Commerce supports the Glendon Street Parking Lot warrant article.

Dave Owen stated the placeholder for such is \$300,000; noting the bid opening date for such is 1/9/12.

Linda Murray stated such would tie into the Downtown Streets project.

Frank Giebutowski questioned whether there is any preference for local providers in the Town's procurement policy; noting such would be a good gesture and good to procure services locally if the bid is within a certain percentage of the lowest bid.

Dave Owen reviewed the Town's procurement policy.

Paul O'Brien questioned whether the Town has to take the lowest bid.

Dave Owen replied no.

Mike Cooper questioned a conflict of interest policy.

Dave Owen stated he does not recall.

Frank Giebutowski requested such be considered; noting such would show faith in the local economy.

Old Business

➤ **Member position vacancy**

The Committee discussed speaking to members of the community from the Downtown, industrial and healthcare sectors to become a member of the EDC.

It was moved by and seconded by to adjourn the December 14, 2011 EDC meeting. All members voted in favor.

EDC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2011 @ 8 AM at the Wolfeboro Inn Ballroom.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Keathley

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