

EDC MINUTES MAY 5, 2011

(DERRICK CHIN NOTES)

MEETING BEGUN (7:30 P.M.)

MEMBERS ATTENDING

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DISCUSSION OF 2011 GOALS --- 20/20 consultants were supposed to produce Demographics information. Town staff says they did not have time to produce this information. This information would answer any questions that a developer would ask

EDC Marketing Survey plan --- Leigh Davis-Honn headed this project to support existing businesses.

DISCUSSION OF MEMBERSHIP – BoS recommendations --- Doug Tindal will not be re-upping on the EDC due to time constraints. He is also Vice Chair of the Finance Committee

Everyone on the EDC needs to recruit membership

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES – SIGNAGE BYLAW UPDATE --- It is felt that the Acton business community is cynical about sign issues.

Recommend an effort to become more business friendly

Building Department has a document available to people who want to open a business, or, for example, build a deck. It is felt this process is a tremendous hassle.

Note that Board of Health needs to be more customer friendly

Historic District Commission (HDC) also has sign bylaw that applies to historic districts in Acton

MISCELLANEOUS --- David Didriksen is lobbying for taxing internet sales

Dave Didriksen recommends that EDC review its mission statement

Buy Local Campaign ---- Renew Effort --- # create awareness that shopping in town businesses is good for Acton --- # create community identity --- # create a task force to investigate use of local currency for use in town businesses / Berkshares was successful / [www. Berkshares.org](http://www.Berkshares.org) is a non-profit group / launched in 2006 / dubbed great success by NY Times --- # town citizenship is good for business.

PATH FORWARD

ADJOURNED