



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 18, 2011 – 7:30 PM – Room 204 – Acton Town Hall

Prepared by Dick Calandrella – Vice Chairman

Attending: Nancy Dinkel / Ann Chang / Derrick Chin / Dave Clough / Dick Calandrella (Quorum present)

Call to Order: 7:34 p.m.

Public Participation: None

Approval of August 4, 2011 Meeting Minutes: Tabled until next meeting.

Mission Review: After much discussion, the EDC Mission statement approved on March 19, 2009 was re-affirmed. **Action Item:** the Mission statement was approved unanimously.

Updates on Sign Bylaw: Ann presented a 19-page draft document (with cover letter) from Town Planner Roland Bartl directed to West Acton businesses with detailed information about the sign bylaw guidelines. Ann commented that the package is “too overwhelming” for businesses, and she suggested some edits to Roland. **Action Item:** Ann will send package via E-Mail to all EDC members.

Ann noted that Roland is beginning to schedule individual meetings with the West Acton business owners to discuss the bylaw. **Action Item:** Ann will get dates/time/location of these meetings from Roland and will send this information to EDC members.

Dick discussed E-Mail from the Historic District Commission (HDC) inviting the EDC to meet with them at their next HDC meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 23, 2011 in Room 126 at Acton Town Hall to discuss “Sign Enforcement Overview” with HDC/EDC on the Agenda for 8:00 p.m. **Action Item:** Dick to send Agenda via E-Mail to EDC members to see who might want to attend, and to determine if EDC attendance would constitute a Quorum.

Updates on Electronic Business Directory: Tabled until next meeting.

Updates on Marketing Survey: Nancy noted she sent an E-Mail to Sarah Fletcher from the MetroWest Chamber of Commerce asking for financial assistance to mail the EDC Business Survey. Dave Clough brought up same financial request at the last Board of Selectmen meeting. No vote was taken but Acton Town Manager Steve Ledoux indicated he “has no problem” with the request.

Action Item: All EDC members asked to review the Business Survey and send their

comments/edits via E-Mail to Chris Pappas.

Kelly's Corner Development (Fact vs Rumor): A very wide-ranging discussion was held including:

- Curb cut out to Massachusetts Avenue (Route 111) and possible restaurant near Roche Brothers. Curb cut issues could be closeness to Route 2 exit and line of sight. Could be exit-only right onto Massachusetts Avenue. Derrick C. reported this curb cut topic was discussed, but never was passed.

- Roland Bartl said to have had informal discussion with plaza business owners about how Acton 20/20 might be of assistance, and these owners have been invited to the next Acton 20/20 meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2011.

- Harmony's Restaurant/Take Out closed – commercial space now available.

- Noted that discussion of what to do with Kelly's Corner was "pointless" since the town of Acton does not own any of the property.

- Possible land-swap consideration is said to be under discussion between Town of Acton and owners of proposed Day Care Center on Main Street (Route 27).

- Empty Casa Stone Building

New Business: Dave Clough discussed a new town document about "Site Plan Special Permit Process." **Action Item:** Dave will send document via E-Mail to all EDC members. Comments to be sent back via E-Mail to Dave.

- Dick said that by telephone Chris Pappas told him that Roland Bartl told Chris that Roland will put the EDC on the E-Mail list to receive information about all site plan permits that are filed to do business in Acton.

- Dick said he sent updated EDC meeting time and member information to the IT Department at Town Hall asking that the EDC information on the Town Web site be corrected.

Adjourn: 9:00 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, September 1, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 204 at Acton Town Hall.

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