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EDC Minutes – 20 March 2014

These are the meeting minutes from the Economic Development Committee (EDC) of the Town of Acton, Massachusetts. The meeting took place on 20 March 2014 at the Acton Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Nancy Dinkel.

Present: Allan Gulliver, Ann Chang, Chris Pappas, Dave Clough, Derrick Chin, Dick Calandrella, Doug Tindal, Larry Kenah, Nancy Dinkel

Not Present: None

There was no public participation.

Minutes from the 6 March 2014 meeting were approved with one minor edit.

Dave Clough's term as a member of the Board of Selectmen (BoS) is coming to an end. This was his last EDC meeting. We will miss his guidance and insights into the workings of the town.

Robbins Brook v Firewood Manufacturing (3)

There was no update on this item. The BoS have continued this item until late April.

Acton 2020 (4)

Larry Kenah gave a brief update of the first meeting of the Kelley's Corner Steering Committee (KCSC). His report is attached to these minutes.

Larry will forward the agenda for each KCSC meeting to EDC members so that people can decide whether to attend the steering committee meetings.

Alignable (5)

Dave Clough gave a brief update on the group of Acton retailers who are making use of this Web site.

- Not a lot going on.
- More people are joining.
- The Web site is not being utilized.

Other Dave Clough Items

Dave took this opportunity to provide a brief update on items that the committee has discussed in the past.

Knox Trail and Concord School buses

- Concord is looking at a second parcel of land on Knox Trail. The first parcel is encumbered.
- Concord wants its school buses parked elsewhere.
- If the Knox Trail plan fails, Concord may outsource its buses

CVS

No agreement has been reached in the dispute between the town and CVS.

Goals (6)

We talked about several specific efforts related to goals.

Surveys

Chris Pappas distributed results from a survey of Cape Cod businesses. The information gathered in the survey was useful from more than one perspective. We asked ourselves what we would do with similar results if we went through the effort of gathering the data.

Doug Tindal pointed out that Acton 2020 created several surveys a few years ago as input for the development of a master plan for Acton. If we generate a new survey, we should ask some of the same questions but ask different questions as well. We agreed to track down the Acton 2020 material as an initial step in any survey project that we work on.

Bolton Video

The discussion of the video from the Town of Bolton Web site led to a brief discussion of the differences between towns. We learned that Southborough has 2500 jobs in non-profit organizations. We should meet with a representative from Southborough.

On a related note, Dick Calandrella invited EDC members to go through video training at Acton TV.

Woods Plaza

Derrick Chin gave a quick Update on his attempts to attend one of the meetings of some of the retailers at Woods Plaza. He learned that these meetings take place "every now and then". Derrick and Larry will attend an upcoming meeting on 15 April 2014.

Derrick may have provided help to the Woods Plaza folks as they try to install a sign that lists all of the retailers in the plaza.

Remaining Agenda Items

There were no updates on agenda items #7 through #10.

In Closing

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

These minutes were recorded by Lawrence J Kenah, EDC Clerk.