



Town of Hopkinton, NH

Office of the Select Board

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015 APPROVED – FEBRUARY 10, 2015

Meredith Astles called the Economic Development Committee (EDC) meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, in the Conference Room in the Town Hall.

Members Present: Meredith Astles, Mark Beaudoin, Byron Carr, Dick Horner, LeeAnne Vance

Members Absent: Jim O'Brien

Staff Present: Neal Cass, Town Administrator

The minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting of the EDC were accepted by consensus.

Committee members discussed potential mission statements. The committee decided on the following draft statement which they will review again at the next meeting and adopt at that time:

The mission of the Town of Hopkinton's Economic Development Committee is to enhance the many attributes that the Town of Hopkinton has to offer.

We are dedicated to help create opportunities for economic development through desirable business growth, expansion, retention and attraction in working as partners to develop a climate conducive in maintaining the quality of life in this great Town of Hopkinton, County of Merrimack, State of New Hampshire.

We are dedicated to creating a more vibrant and cultivated community by

- Serving as a conduit between the commercial economic interests in Town of Hopkinton, the municipal government and the Town's population;
- Encouraging the economic well-being and expansion of the existing commercial businesses located within the Town;
- Responsibly assisting in developing properties within the Town of Hopkinton in an effort to improve the aesthetics of the town while providing additional revenue; and,
- Reviewing Town ordinances, policies, and practices to determine their impact on existing and proposed commercial businesses.

The Committee reviewed current zoning reviewing the zoning maps and allowable uses.

Other items discussed included:

- Areas in town where business development might be possible.
- How to “embrace” the river that is so prominent in town.
- How to support the development of business in Contoocook Village
- Possibility of creating a video highlighting the town.
- Signage
- Rail/Trail use for hiking, bicycles, and snowmobiles
- Availability of grants

For the next meeting, the following will take place:

- Members will review the mission statement and prepare to finalize it at the next meeting
- Members will think about what it takes to be a “sustainable” town and think about what this would look like
- Meredith will continue her contact with the State and report back her findings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Meredith declared the meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Neal A. Cass, Town Administrator