



# Town of Hopkinton, NH

## Office of the Select Board

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### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2015 APPROVED – March 10, 2015

Meredith Astles called the Economic Development Committee (EDC) meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, in the Conference Room in the Town Hall.

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

**Members Absent:** Dick Horner, Jim O'Brien

**Staff Present:** Neal Cass, Town Administrator

**Others Present:** Cynthia Harrington, Business Development Manager, NH DRED

The minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting of the EDC were approved by consensus.

The committee welcomes Cynthia Harrington from NH DRED. She offered the following information to the committee:

- Find ways to keep Hopkinton on the radar of potential businesses
  - Lookers find NH by looking at New England
  - Include regional information on the website.
  - Show that we are business friendly
  - Water/Sewer?
  - List of what is available in area
  - Zoning that is flexible – If pre-zoned it is easier for businesses
  - Proximity to major markets – have map on website
  - Education is important – highlight local school and proximity to private schools
  - Business owners want to know they can recruit a workforce
  - Highlight lifestyle, education, and what the town has to offer
- A good website is key to all this
  - Clean home page – information should be one click away
  - Include information of potential business sites available
  - Regional attributes are important
- The State works primarily with manufacturing business. Bio-tech, Bio-medical, Aero space and high-tech manufacturing are growing fields.
- Three phase electricity is a marketing tool.

Ms. Harrington and the committee discussed ideas that had been discussed at previous meetings.

The committee adopted the following Mission Statement:

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 to maintaining the quality of life in this great Town of Hopkinton.

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 residents of Town;
- 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 will work on ways to build relationships with existing businesses.

The committee will have a presence at Town Meeting and do “dot” voting.

Next meeting the committee will”

- Prepare for Town Meeting
- Explore connection to the Concord Chamber of Commerce and young professional association.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Meredith declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Neal A. Cass, Town Administrator