



Town of Pepperell Economic Development Advisory Committee

1 Main Street, Pepperell, Massachusetts 01463-1644

Minutes – September 17, 2020 Meeting

Committee Members Present:

Mark Mathews, Chair
Joyce Morrow, Clerk
Chet Babineau
Kelli Kinney
Stephen Themelis
Chuck Walkovich

Committee Members Absent:

Phil Lenker

Additional Attendee(s):

Margaret Scarsdale

Meeting Convened at 6:14 PM. Pledge of Allegiance took place. Meeting was recorded.

1. Minutes of the August 20, 2020 meetings

Minutes of the August 20, 2020 meeting were accepted and approved.

2. Discussion

Chair started discussion with the brief overview of meeting objectives. Chair notified the group that Phil Lenker decided to resign and would send in a formal letter of resignation. Chair opened the floor for member updates on respective action items.

Stephen Themelis started off with a brief update on the MassDevelopment grant application. Application was submitted August 29th which was before due date of September 4, 2020. It is hopeful that we will hear by October/November timeframe.

Stephen agreed to check with NMCOC and direct his findings back to the group at the next meeting.

Joyce briefed group on her discussions with Eagle Creek and Solect Energy. Solect Energy and Eagle Creek had a conference call to discuss options. Solect Energy to reach out to 1A

Auto since 1A Auto representative was on vacation at the time of the conference call between Eagle Creek and Solect Energy

Chair reminded all that someone from the Agri Board (Sherill Rosoff) was invited to participate but declined. She asked to be scheduled for the next meeting. Reason given was that Agri Adv group were working on its goals and objectives. Once that process was complete, she felt that discussion with EDAC would be more productive.

Chair continued discussion about having as EDAC's goals the Master Plan Implementation Recommendations. It was pointed out that certain EDAC members were already working on those recommendations and had been since the beginning of the year.

Chair talked about using the SMART methodology going forward. Discussion pursued. The majority of those present believed that this process would not be effective at this time because time commitments could not be identified and agreed to by the external companies/groups/committees with whom they were working. Chair stated that the October meeting agenda would focus on the Master Plan recommendations under Economic Development.

Chuck offered to prepare a table/spreadsheet of the Economic Development Master Plan implementation recommendations. Margaret Scarsdale stated that she had already started to put the implementation recommendations on an Excel spreadsheet for tracking and offered to provide EDAC with a copy. Chuck and Mark agreed to review the Master Plan document prior to the next meeting and update the committee.

Kelli mentioned that her work on the dog park is coming along, and she hopes that the park will be up and running by Spring 2021. She mentioned that they were hopeful of getting a (\$25,000) grant from Pet Smart to help with the costs. Kelli continued by saying that she wants to help EDAC but doesn't know what to do. She asked to be given a list of things to work on as she wants to contribute more.

Chair suggested that she research number of active farmers in Pepperell in response to Chuck's inquiry about how to ascertain this information.

Chair asked for a Motion to Adjourn.

3. Adjournment

Motion was received and approved to adjourn at 7:03PM.

4. 2020 EDAC Meeting Schedule

October 15

November 19

December 17