

Town of Waterboro

Economic Development Committee

Minutes

May 14, 2014

Call to Order: 5:10 PM, by Chairman Leo Binette. Present: Don Holden and John Wade members; Town Planner Tom Ursia and Sel. Dave Woodsome. Guests, Bob Powers, 20/20 Committee Chairman. Absent: Deb Harding and Jason Straetz, members.

Agenda Review and Acceptance: All agreed to accept the agenda as written.

Minutes: Don Holden made the motion to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting as written. Leo seconded. Voted, passed.

Correspondence: Deb, Jason and Sel. Dennis Abbott, sent in e-mails in regards to not being able to attend the meeting.

Announcements: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Economic Development Chapter for the Comprehensive Plan Draft Update: The Committee was in receipt of the 20/20 Committee's suggestions. Don made the motion to approve and add the suggestions to the draft. John seconded. Voted, passed. Tom suggested that the EDC hold a facilitated/strategic focused conversation with the business community, including Waterboro Association of Businesses, Town Dept. Heads, Biddeford/Saco Chamber, the ATV and Snowmobile Clubs, with the result becoming the opening statement for the EDC Chapter. His number one choice would be Craig Freshly of Good Decisions, or Pam Plumb, former Mayor of Portland. Discussion on date, time, etc. Tom estimated it should be 4-6 hours, estimate cost to be \$3-4,000. and it be held from at least 8 am to 12 noon during the month of June. Tom will check on Mr. Freshly's availability for June 21 or 28; and, will work up a skelton agenda. He suggested that food be served and raffle(s) held to entice participants to attend. Don made the motion to move forward with a facilitated/strategic focused conversation in regards to help with assessing the Town's economic development priorities for the present and future; to be scheduled for June 16 or 23. John seconded. Voted, Passed. Tom will contact Mr. Freshly and report back to the EDC tomorrow on his availability and cost.

2014-15 Budget Request Update: Tom's request for \$20,000. was cut to \$5,000. In the Administrator's Budget. Leo with talk to Town Administrator in regards to this subject.

State – Business Friendly designation: The Town Administrator will be asked for the file so the committee can review past application and letter of non-acceptance; and also, provide the committee with the current application process information.

Committee Work Plan for 2014: Tabled until the June meeting.

New Business: None.

General Discussion: Topics included the Revolving Loan that So. Maine Regional Planning has for York County Business; Agribusiness such as Backyard Farms could be a possibility for Waterboro; and, a primary focus for Waterboro should be nature tourism.

Adjourn: John made the motion to adjourn at 7:05 PM. Don seconded. Voted, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Holden
Committee Secretary

Approved June 11, 2014