

Town of Hebron
Economic Development Commission
April 18, 2011
Regular Meeting
Hebron Town Hall Meeting Room

RECEIVED

2011 APR 26 A 8:17
Ann E. Hughes
HEBRON TOWN CLERK
Aut

Members Present: Vickie Avelis, Peter Casarella, Dottie Moon

Members Absent: John Lesisko, Lawrence Preston

Staff Present: Bonnie Therrien – Town Manager

V. Avelis called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

V. Avelis moved to accept the minutes for the March 10, 2011 meeting without changes. D. Moon seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Business Visitations:

B. Therrien informed the commission that Becky Nolin needs a schedule of business visits. Members discussed the order in which to visit businesses, and the need to inform the Board of Selectmen when the visits commence. Members also discussed the need to limit the number of individuals present for the visits to two or three. V. Avelis reviewed the list of commercial taxpayers in town to develop a list of businesses with an actual presence in town to interview. D. Moon suggested questioning the owners of Sunnyside to see if their business has changed with the opening of the new Xtra Mart. D. Moon further suggested inquiring of the level of business liquor stores at each end of town experience, and also prioritizing medical businesses when scheduling visits. V. Avelis suggested interviewing the owners of Wild Bills to see how their renovations have effected their business.

Chamber Award:

V. Avelis discussed the Chamber of Commerce having awarded Tarca Automotive as Business of the Year. V. Avelis suggested developing a list in February of potential candidates for next year. P. Casarella suggested members consider the Chamber Award for Volunteer of the Year as well. D. Moon noted that the Chamber of Commerce had other categories for awards as well, and suggested obtaining a list of them to consider for next year.

Charrette Process:

B. Therrien informed the commission that approximately 65 people attended the Charrette meetings. B. Therrien stated that a disk of the final presentation was forthcoming and that sketches were on display at the Library for the public to view. B. Therrien suggested scheduling a joint meeting between the BOS, Planning & Zoning Department, Economic Development Commission and the Hebron Historic District to discuss the design as presented. P. Casarella inquired if there were any suggested uses for the old gas station. B. Therrien stated that the property, combined with adjacent land, could be a good location for a community center. P. Casarella inquired if there was a way for the Town to express their appreciation to the students that helped develop the plan. B. Therrien offered to write a letter of thanks. Members discussed posting the videos of the Charrette Meetings on the website. D. Moon inquired if cost estimates were included in the planning process. B. Therrien stated that the purpose of the process was to develop a long range conceptual plan, and that pricing was not performed.

**Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting
April 18, 2011
Page 2**

Developer Tour:

Members discussed an appropriate time to schedule another Developer/Realtor/Broker Tour of development sites around the town. V. Avelis suggested scheduling the tour to take place early in September, and noted that he liked the route taken during the last tour.

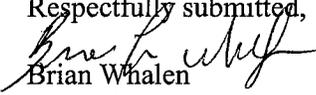
Application for Fixing Assessment:

Members discussed the request filed by the owners of Xtra Mart to fix the assessment. B. Therrien noted that the request wasn't filed prior to construction and there wasn't any mitigating reason expressed for the request. D. Moon suggested changing the policy going forward to make the application more clear. B. Therrien offered to contact the owners to see if there was a specific reason for their request. Members discussed how the assessment program might help to encourage developer interest in the Loveland subdivision. B. Therrien informed the commission that Webster Bank foreclosed on the property and was planning to go before Planning and Zoning to extend the permit. B. Therrien stated that the property had been mowed and windows were fixed but that more had been broken. Members agreed that preparing a package deal with Webster Bank might make the project more saleable. Members discussed the approval of the traffic light at Horton Boulevard and the new sign on the Church of Hope. V. Avelis noted that Fenn Again's appeared to be doing a lot of business and that consideration should be given to grading the land behind the firehouse to provide additional parking for area businesses.

Adjourn

P. Casarella moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Brian Whalen
Board Clerk