

Groton Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes 2/8/2017

Attendees for EDC: Russell Burke, Mike Rasmussen, Art Prest, John Konetzny, Josh Degen and Gina Cronin.

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order by Mike Rasmussen at 6:10 PM at Groton Town Hall.

1. The EDC reviewed previous meeting minutes from 1/25. Mike made a motion to approve the 1/25 minutes, Gina 2nd it, all in favor. Josh abstained, was not present at that meeting.
2. Russ brought to attention of EDC that he met with South Coast in regards to old Wong Property. He recommended to them that they meet with the EDC prior to submitting any development plans. He heard they want a medical building, bank and coffee shop. Art also spoke to South Coast and heard similar things as Russ.
3. The EDC decided to delay having Bob France come to the March 8th meeting.
4. Mike let the EDC know that Matt Evans wants to come to speak to the EDC at one of their meetings.
5. The EDC talked about the history of the Prescott building and how the town voted not to sell it at a town meeting. Matt Evans wants the basement and 1st floor.
6. The EDC will reach out to Matt Evans and South Coast to invite them to the 2/22 meeting. John Amaral and Halsey Platt will be coming in on March 8th, they were rescheduled from a different date.
7. Mike let the EDC know that Anna Elliot had requested to add "Possible sponsorship of Mass Development forum on financing muni/private projects" to the agenda of this meeting. Anna was not present so it was decided it was best to delay this topic to a future date. The EDC would also like to invite Sheila Harrington to the meeting to speak about it as well.
8. Josh thought it was a good idea to speak with the developer of the Groton Inn about the Prescott building to see if he knows of anyone that would be interested in the building.
9. Art heard that South Coast is also speaking with National Grid about the 16 acres behind the old Wong property that South Coast now owns.
10. John reviewed maps he brought in of Groton with businesses listed on them. He split the maps up into 7 sections and asked each EDC member to drive those sections and confirm what businesses are there. Once complete, the EDC will update the Groton Business Map that was done about 6 years ago. The EDC will bring in their updated section to the March 8th meeting.
11. Russ brought up his thoughts on the elimination of concept plan approval. He feels that it was best to require CPA for anyone looking to rezone property. CPA elimination is best for people who are developing property that is already zoned to the use they are looking for. Russ feels CPA elimination is ready to bring to town meeting for Spring 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM. The next meeting is scheduled for 2/22/2017.

Respectfully submitted by John Konetzny