

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

Members present: Gus Lerandeau, David Cairns, H. Gregory Johnson, Arthur Boufford, David Krisch and Town Administrator Beth Fox.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Greg Johnson.

Johnson introduced the committee's newest member, David Krisch. Krisch has served on numerous boards for the Town of Swanzey. Johnson also introduced guest speaker, Justin Slattery, Regional Resource Specialist for the State of New Hampshire Division of Economic Development. Slattery explained to the Committee that he assists businesses to help them grow, works with companies before layoffs, rapid resource for people that have been laid off and job training programs. Johnson asked Slattery what his background is that qualifies him to hold this position. Slattery replied that he has experience in government and politics, labor relations, security and NH Works. Johnson expressed his concern that when researching business growth, it all appears to be in the Concord, Nashua and seacoast area, but nothing in Keene or Swanzey. Johnson asked Slattery for help in the financing aspect for the businesses to create more jobs. Krisch asked that Slattery get word to Concord for our options for growth between conservation and the very large businesses. Cairns asked about Broad Band.

Committee reviewed the minutes of August 9, 2010 and voted to accept the minutes as written.

OLD BUSINESS – Johnson drafted the yearly letter to the Selectmen informing them of the status of the Committee relative to goals. Members agreed that it was fine. Krisch advised that another paragraph be added stating that the Committee would be glad to meet with them in October. Fox to coordinate with the Selectmen.

Lerandeau asked Fox if the mailings to the businesses were ready to go. She replied yes by the beginning of next week.

Johnson asked how the website was coming along. Fox replied that it was up and running but is work in progress.

Fox informed the Committee that Nano Technology recently hired 8 new employees and that there was an article in the September issue of the Business New Hampshire magazine about them being the 14th top company in New Hampshire. She will add them to the website.

NEW BUSINESS - Hutwelker and Cairns term is to expire on 9/24/2010. It was agreed by the Committee that this would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Fox informed the Committee that Homestead Woolen Mills is having a tour of their building on 9/15/10 at 5:00 p.m., Keene Gas is holding an open house on 9/11/2010, the invite from Cheshire Toyota Fenton Family on 9/30/2010 and the kickoff of Phase II for the infrastructure between Rte. 12 and Rte. 32.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna Munson
Recording Secretary