

Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire
Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)
Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2015

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Swanzey Economic Development Advisory Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Steven Bittel.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Steven Bittel, Greg Johnson, Don Skiba, David Cairns, and Arthur Boufford.

Absent: Lynn Rust, Guy Pronesti and Alternate Bill Hutwelker

Others Present: Director of Planning and Community Development Sara Carbonneau and Swanzey Revenue Development District Advisory Board Chair Glenn Page. Town Administrator Shane O’Keefe was also present from 5:00 p.m. to 5:08 p.m.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes of March 9, 2015 were considered. Skiba **moved** to accept the minutes of March 9, 2015, seconded by Cairns and all were in favor. ***Motion passed.***

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Skiba **moved** to reelect the current officers through September 2015. Johnson seconded the motion, and all were in favor. ***Motion passed.***

Steve Bittel is Chair and David Cairns is the Vice Chair through September, 2015.

REVIEW OF CURRENT PROJECTS:

- TIF District and Safford Drive extension development promotion:
 - **Report on Safford Drive construction** - Page spoke about the fact that construction has begun once again at the intersection of NH Route 12 and Safford Drive. Question has arisen regarding a curb cut being moved. Schedule says they will be done with the project by May 29, 2015. Striping will be done by the 27th.
 - **Signage** – Carbonneau spoke about the sign post getting painted by Johnson Lettering. She also spoke about the street signs that will be going up by May 29th. And a new sign for Southwest NH Enterprise Zone will be placed at NH Route 12 and Safford Drive, once the construction is completed.
 - **Ribbon cutting event** - Carbonneau said Consultant Stu Arnett recommended a more active program than just a ribbon-cutting.
 - The **date** for the event is May 29, 2015 – Invitations will go out May 4, 2015
 - **Program review** - A New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) representative will be doing a presentation about moving Southwest New Hampshire economy forward. Following will be presentations on efforts to correct qualified labor shortages by both Young Entrepreneurs Panel and the Resources for Advanced Manufacturing programs. Carbonneau said that Brickstone Land Use Consultant Dave Bergeron will do the final morning presentation. Bergeron will map out the site and utilities locations. His role is to represent the advantages of

this particular industrial zone. Bittel suggested that the concept for the Collier property should be displayed as well.

- **Guests** - Carbonneau spoke about a list of folks to be invited including manufacturers in the greater Keene area. She noted that the local Chamber of Commerce will also provide a list to work from. It was also suggested to include Hillsboro County and Southern Vermont for persons to invite. Bittel said the idea is to get some good press and continue to get attention from the State folks at DRED. Cairns will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Lunch at KSC Camp followed by tours of Carlisle Wide Plank Floors and Moore Nanotechnology.
- **Volunteers Needed** - Discussion was held about needing volunteers to cook hotdogs/hamburgers at the Keene State College (KSC) Camp. EDAC members should be mingling with the visitors.
- **Ribbon-Cutting** - If Governor is present, she can cut the ribbon or the Selectmen will be asked to do so. Discussion was held regarding purchasing ribbon and stickers. The stickers cost \$54. Three-color six-inch ribbon is \$7.00 per yard at a cost of \$49.00.

Skiba **moved** to expend up to \$75.00 for ribbon for the ribbon-cutting at Safford Drive, second by Johnson, and all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

- Discussion occurred regarding New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NH DOT) signing off on the completed Safford Drive and the date for opening the road to the public.
- Johnson complimented Carbonneau on the plan for the ribbon-cutting event.

NEW BUSINESS

- Carbonneau informed the Committee that May 7, 2015 is the date for the Young Entrepreneurs Panel which will be held in Walpole, NH. Carbonneau recommended EDAC members attend this event.

Next scheduled meeting: May 11, 2015

Adjournment:

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Cairns with a second from Boufford and all were in favor. Adjournment occurred at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beverly Bernard, Recording Secretary