

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 9, 2012

Members present: Arthur Bouffard, H. Gregory Johnson, Steve Bittel and David Krisch. Also present was Town Administrator Beth Fox.

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Chairman Krisch.

Minutes of EDAC meeting of 12/12/11.

On motion of A. Bouffard, seconded by S. Bittel, minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2011 were approved as written.

Updates

Mission Statement. D. Krisch advised he had put off work on a draft mission statement over the holidays advising members he would prepare a draft for consideration at the group's next meeting.

G. Lerandeau arrived.

Open Houses

H.G. Johnson advised he had been considering locations and identified 2 possibilities – Warner Tool and Moore Nanotechnology. Attention may have to be given to the sensitive nature of some of Warner's work if it is location for an open house. Attendance may need to be calculated for an event at Warner due to parking limitations. H. G. Johnson expressed concern about the content of the "Swanzey Uncovered" newsletter focusing too much on open space and not included news such as recognition of the town – presented to its Fire Chief – by the Governor or news about EDAC activities. He thought each newsletter should include an EDAC feature "spotlighting" a local company. He also felt it could be a tool for advertising planned open houses or business tours sponsored by the committee. D. Krisch advised he would talk with town staff charged with assembling Swanzey Uncovered advising EDAC wished to be included on upcoming submission broadcasts. S. Bittel expressed support for inclusion of a "new business" feature in Swanzey Uncovered along with general information regarding EDAC. Updates on activities in the TIF district and the benefits anticipated could be included too. Millwork Masters (formerly Keene Motorsports) was identified as another potential location for an open house/business event.

Publicity/Brochure

A. Bouffard advised he was organizing materials and would be working on a draft for committee consideration in April. Audience for the brochure may dictate information included as different information might be useful or appeal to the business community versus general public.

Items for inclusion in the town's newsletter were discussed with Johnson suggesting information on the regional planning commission could also be included.

It was noted that S. Bittel had shared electronically with members an article entitled "Urban Legends".

An email exchange between D. Krisch and S. Bittel related to Homestead Woolen Mills and a communication delay (due to a computer problem) and miscommunication regarding its intent was discussed. S. Bittel advised he had been seeking contact information for Doug Brown. Fox advised she would forward contact information for D. Brown to S. Bittel.

Other matters

D. Krisch advised he was intending to retire mid-year and planned to relocate to the Southwest. He would like to transition the committee chair responsibilities to another member in March. Need for

appointment or re-appointment of at least 2 members was discussed with Fox advising she would ensure notice seeking members was posted on the town's web site.

Next meeting: February 13, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Elizabeth Fox, Town Administrator