



Town of Westminster

MASSACHUSETTS 01473

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Phone: (978) 874-7414

Economic Development Committee (EDC) – Meeting Minutes for October 2, 2013

Members Present: Richelle Brown, Jeff Crowley, John Fairbanks, Joe Serio

Others Present: Scott Aubuchon, Town Resident
 Doug Kehlhem, MassEcon
 Ralph LeBlanc, Town Resident
 Steve Wallace, Town Planner

Members Absent: Bud Taylor

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairman Joe Serio

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the September 4th meeting. John Fairbanks made a motion to approve as amended, and Jeff Crowley seconded. The motion passed 3 to 0 with Joe Serio abstaining, because he did not attend that meeting.

The committee then discussed the local business list for inclusion in the Town's promotional brochure project. The Town Planner presented a list of Westminster businesses for review. Steve Wallace stated that he thought that the restaurants (with one new one added), lodging businesses, and health and wellness establishments should be included for sure. The Committee discussed the possibility of the two golf courses in Town, plus Wachusett Mountain, being included as well. The Committee also talked about adding Wachusett Mountain hiking trail maps plus those in the Leominster State Forest as well.

Next, our featured guest speaker, Douglas R. Kehlhem, Senior Director at MassEcon spoke with the committee about his organization and what it does for economic development in Massachusetts. Mr. Kehlhem stated that MassEcon is 100% private sector funded with about 65 members.

Steve Wallace reported on his activity on two subjects since the last meeting:

- a. Nine out of 120 surveys to Westminster businesses were returned. While this return rate is much lower than hoped for, Steve will create a summary of the responses for the Committee's review in November.
- b. The Leominster slots/casino vote passed by an approximate 62 For/38 Against vote.

Membership recruitment was the last subject discussed. Joe Serio had talked with one perspective member who decided not to join, and Jeff Crowley talked with one individual who is exploring the idea of joining the EDC.

The EDC will meet next month on Wednesday, November 6th at 7:00 PM.

Motion was made by Richelle Brown and seconded by Jeff Crowley to adjourn the meeting. Vote was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Submitted by:

JOHN F. FAIRBANKS
EDC Clerk-Secretary