

## **Town of Westminster**

MASSACHUSETTS 01473 FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Phone: (978) 874-7414

## **Economic Development Committee (EDC) – Meeting Minutes for November 6, 2013**

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

Others Present: Jim Bellina, Director, Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce

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 October 2nd meeting. Jeff Crowley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Joe Serio seconded. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Next, our featured guest speaker, Jim Bellina, Director of the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce spoke with the committee about his organization and what it does for economy of the greater Gardner area. Mr. Bellina stated that the mission of the chamber "is to build a strong local economy and quality of life by promoting economic, civic, and social development". He discussed how the chamber provides networking and marketing opportunities as well as education and training.

The committee then discussed the local business list for inclusion in the Town's promotional brochure project. Mr. Wallace will look into increased quantity costs should the initial printing supplies run out quickly.

Steve Wallace provided a summary of the returned Westminster business surveys. While the return rate is much lower than hoped for, EDC members will personally talk with business owners during November and December with the hope of improving the number of returned surveys.

Membership recruitment was the last subject discussed. Ralph LeBlanc has expressed an interest in becoming an EDC member. The Board of Selectman will discuss this nomination at their Nov 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The EDC will not meet in December. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00 PM.

Motion was made by Jeff Crowley and seconded by Richelle Brown to adjourn the meeting. Vote was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Submitted by:

JOHN F. FAIRBANKS EDC Clerk-Secretary