## Economic Development Committee (EDC) – Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2018

<u>Members Present</u> - Ralph LeBlanc, Joe Serio & and Jim Delisle. Others in attendance: John Cook from the Agricultural Commission

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Chairman Serio.

The first order of business was approving the meeting minutes from June 6th, all in favor.

Next up was discussing the results from the wayfaring signage public forum held on June 9th. The Town Planner went over the forum results, covering what the forum participants want to advertise, where the signs should be located and how they should look. Four design options came out of the forum and they were provided to Addasign, a sign design company out of Leominster, which has agreed to prepare design mock-ups of each option. The EDC members and the Agricultural Commission representative chose the 2nd design option by a vote of 3 - 1.

The next step of the process is to meet with the Department of Public Works Commissioners to review the preferred design, the signpost locations and what to advertise at each location. Once these details are settled, Addasign can prepare detailed cost estimates which can be included in future grant applications. Unfortunately, the Town Planner noted that the State's Downtown Initiative grant program will not fund the cost of materials or installation, so another grant or funding source will need to be found for this effort. This matter was concluded by the Town Planner saying he would try to arrange a meeting with the DPW Commissioner's before the end of the month.

The last topic of discussion was an overview of recent economic development activities in Westminster: new businesses moving into town, industries looking to move to town, etc. Chairman Serio gave an overview of his new farm-stand/ice cream parlor on Main Street, saying that the grand opening went very well.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM. The next meeting of the EDC will take place on Wednesday September 5th.