

**Middletown Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 5:00 pm**

**Middletown Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room**

**Joseph A. Cirillo (exp. 1/13)\_x\_**

**7 Samson Lane**

**Middletown, RI 02842**

**jac@etal.uri.edu**

**Liana Ferreira Fenton (exp.1/14)\_x\_**

**53 Berkeley Ave.**

**Middletown, RI 02842**

**Lianaff@aol.com**

**Tom Kowalczyk (exp. 1/13)\_x\_**

**9 Beechland Place**

**Middletown, RI, 02842**

**Thomas.Kowalczyk@associates.dhs.gov**

**Robert M. Silva (exp. 1/16)\_\_\_\_**

**1100 Aquidneck Ave.**

**Middletown, RI, 02842**

**rmsilva@silvalawgroup.com**

**Nick Coogan \_x\_**

**John Bagwill \_\_\_x\_**

**VACANCY**

**Chris Semonelli, Town Council Rep. ex-officio \_\_\_**

**Barbara VonVillas, Town Council Rep. ex-officio\_x\_**

**Jody Sullivan\_\_x\_**

**Newport County Chamber of Commerce – ex-officio**

**keith@newportchamber.com**

**Ron Wolanski, Town Planner – ex-officio\_ X\_**

**rwolanski@middletownri.com**

**Shawn Brown, Town Administrator \_\_\_\_\_**

**The meeting was called to order at 5pm**

**1. Discussion of the Aquidneck Island broadband initiative and other technology issues related to economic development with Matt Wainwright, Middletown IT Director.**

**Mr. Wainwright provided information on the ongoing efforts of the Aquidneck Island Broadband Project. He answered various questions from committee members on the need and economic benefit to providing fiber optic broadband internet access to the local business community at a reasonable price.**

**Mr. Wainwright indicated that funding is needed to hire a grant writer to assist with fundraising to fund further analysis and potential implementation of the system. A request for funding has been submitted to the Town Administrator.**

**Ms. Sullivan indicated that the Chamber of Commerce may be able to assist with funding the grant writer.**

**Committee members expressed interest in keeping apprised of the status of the effort and providing assistance as appropriate.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6pm.**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Ronald M. Wolanski, Planning Director**