

Town of Tiverton



Economic Development Commission

343 Highland Road, Tiverton Rhode Island 02878

MEETING MINUTES

ORGANIZATION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

DATE AND TIME: September 11, 2014 @ 6:00PM

LOCATION: TIVERTON TOWN HALL
343 HIGHLAND ROAD
TIVERTON, RI 02878

The meeting was called to order by Scott Humphrey at 6:00PM.

Members present in addition to S. Humphrey were Susan Gill and Melissa Hutchinson. Member Jonathan Cottrell was absent.

Item #1: Minutes

Ms. Gill made a motion to approve the May minutes. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Humphrey and Ms. Gill voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Hutchinson abstained since she was not on the EDC in May.

Ms. Gill made a motion to approve the July minutes. Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Humphrey and Ms. Gill voted in favor of the motion. Ms. Hutchinson abstained since she was not present at the July meeting.

Item #2: Town Meeting updates

Harbor Commission- Ms. Gill stated the Harbor Commission had been performing [salt] water quality monitoring and that Tyler Loomis had been appointed as Harbor Master.

Town Council- It was noted that a September 29 Special Meeting would be held for licensing of shooting ranges.

Recreation Commission- Ms. Gill stated that the lower soccer fields at Town Farm were being refurbished and that the Commission was working on a report documenting summer program revenues and expenses.

Planning Board- It was noted that September 23 was the next Special Meeting date and that the Board had forwarded a draft amendment to the Earth Removal ordinance to the Town Council for review.

Waste Water- Mr. Cottrell stated that the Governor had signed the legislation to form the Wastewater District. The new district was working towards obtaining more grant money.

Zoning- TBD - A new delegate to this group was needed.

Four Corners Merchant Group- Mr. Humphrey noted that a memorial service for Jim Weir was scheduled for October 11 at 2:00 PM. The Re-Tree event was scheduled for December 13.

Item #3: Program of Work 2014

A draft was distributed for review. Mr. Humphrey stated that the format should follow the Comp Plan format – Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions.

Item #4: Comprehensive Plan Action Committee

Mr. Humphrey noted that the bullet points on the updated Plan elements were due on September 16, and that he would check in with Town Councilor Bill Gerlach who also worked on the Economic Development element.

Item #5: Board / commission vacating seats

Mr. Humphrey stated that he would obtain a list of seats on boards and commissions that would be available. Ms. Hutchinson agreed to report on Zoning Board meetings, since Thomas Humphrey was no longer an EDC member.

Item #6: EDC Facebook

Ms. Hutchinson stated that she had set up the EDC's Facebook page, and that some contact information needed to be added. She stated that she would need some help on the webpage, and that she would like to move the platform to Square Space. The existing website would need to be evaluated to determine what to keep and what to remove.

Item #7: Tiverton Crossing

Items # 7 through 10 were taken out of order, after Item #1. Interim Town Planner Kate Michaud gave a brief recap of the status of the project, noting that the next meeting date was scheduled for September 23 at the High School. She noted that the Planning Board had indicated that they would be seeking an independent fiscal impact analysis of the proposed project.

Item #8: Tiverton Business Park

Ms. Michaud stated that she had spoken recently with Steve King of the Quonset Development Corporation offering to provide any information necessary to move forward on the development of the Tiverton Business Park.

Item #9: Doughboy Park (aka Grinell's Beach)

Ms. Michaud stated that the report generated by the Roger Williams Community Partnership Center was presented at the September 8 Town Council meeting and that a more in depth discussion was scheduled for the October 7 Planning Board meeting. All were welcome to attend.

Item #10: Tiverton Business Collaboration – update / Kristin Silveira

Ms. Silveira was not present. Mr. Humphrey stated that he would like to explore the idea of bringing the TBC within the EDC. He stated that originally the goal was to have the entity separate from the Town. The entity had been established with the Secretary of State's Office, but there had not been business outreach done or adequate funding obtained. Ms. Gill asked if there would be enough business people participating to make it feasible. Discussion ensued. Ms. Hutchinson opined that networking would be an important function of the organization. Mr. Humphrey stated that he would speak with Town Councilors Bill Gerlach and Brett Pelletier and with Town Administrator Matthew Wojcik.

Item #11: Next meeting and adjournment

Miscellaneous items were discussed briefly including:

- Potentially merging the EDC website into the Town's website.
- Utilization of Facebook and social media.
- Mr. Humphrey reported that a tour of the Industrial Park had been given to the Governor, who had agreed to offer the talent at the Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) to help move the Tiverton Park forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Humphrey to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Gill. Mr. Humphrey, Ms. Hutchinson and Ms. Gill voted in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Submitted by: Kate Michaud Approval Date: _____