



Town of Warren, Rhode Island

Minutes of the Economic Development Board

The Town of Warren, RI Economic Development Board met at a Special Meeting on August 2, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, located at 514 Main Street. Board Members present included Sara Volino, Paula Silva, Davison Bolster, Karen Dionne, Brandt Heckert, Linda Brunini, and Diane Horton. Kristin MacDonald was present at the meeting to serve as Secretary to the EDB. Town Council members Frank Alfano, David Frerichs, and Cathy Tattie were present. Ex Officio member Caroline Wells was not present. Ted Hayes from the East Bay Newspaper was also present at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion and Action Regarding the Liberty Street School RFI/RFP

Ms. Volino opened the meeting with a request to Town Council to give the EDB the opportunity to reopen and review the RFI/RFP for the Liberty Street School. The Board had several questions regarding the procedure and timeline for constructing and publishing the RFI/RFP. Mr. Alfano discussed the history of Town Council and RFI/RFP process for the Liberty Street School; he stated that he was unaware of any current offers for the property. The Board was especially concerned that Town Manager Richard Paduch did not involve Town Planner Caroline Wells in the RFI/RFP process. Mr. Heckert stated that he felt that not utilizing the professional expertise of Ms. Wells was something that should be addressed. In further discussion, the Board members noted that the document was lacking in style, did not contain photos or maps, and in general did not highlight the full potential of the historic property. Although Mr. Frerichs did not have a problem having the EDB review the document, he stated that it was in the best interest of the Town to keep the process moving forward in a timely manner.

Mr. Bolster made a motion that the EDB draft a letter to Town Council requesting to review the REI/RFP for the Liberty Street School and to return the EDB recommendations to Town Council for the September 13th meeting; Ms. Horton seconded the motion, and all members were in favor. Ms. Volino stated she would send a request to the Town Clerk to have the item added to the Agenda for the Town Council meeting scheduled for August 10, 2010.

Given the time, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin M. MacDonald

*Minutes submitted by Kristin MacDonald
August 12, 2010*

