



Town of Warren, Rhode Island

Minutes of the Economic Development Board

The Town of Warren, RI Economic Development Board met at a Regular Meeting on November 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Warren Town Hall. The presiding officer was Karen Dionne. Board members present were Sara Volino, Kathleen Tucciarone, Ben Terry, Tyler Dixon, and Walter Conklin. Mark Lombardi was absent. Kristin MacDonald was present at the meeting to serve as Secretary to the EDB.

1. Review and Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2015.

The minutes from the regular meeting held on October 19, 2015 were reviewed by the board via email. A motion was made by Ms. Volino to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Mr. Dixon, and all members were in favor.

2. Discussion of economic development initiatives for upcoming year including possible "Pride in Warren" campaign.

The Board discussed initiatives for the upcoming year. The discussion focused on the EDB's past success in motivating business owners and vacant storefront owners to clean up their properties for the RI State Preservation Conference which was hosted by Warren in 2014. Ms. Dionne suggested the EDB could work with the Town Manager to apply for a grant to fund public murals on Main Street. Also, the board discussed the Storefront Improvement Program, which has been administered through the Town Planner's office. Mr. Conklin will contact Caroline Wells regarding the current status of the funding for the Storefront Improvement Program. It was noted that there has been no new information regarding the status of the Water Street Improvement Project.

The Board will continue to work on the development of the new website. Mr. Conklin and Ms. Dionne plan to work on the RFP process for the new website.

3. Discussion of presentation to Town Council regarding revisions to signage laws and code enforcement in business districts.

The Board discussed issues with signage laws and the need for stricter code enforcement as part of the previous agenda item.

4. Discussion of business open house.

The Board agreed to postpone the discussion of a possible business open house forum until spring.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ms. Tucciarone, the motion was seconded by Ms. Volino, and all members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin M. MacDonald
December 18, 2015

