



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 October 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Warren Town Hall. The presiding officer was Karen Dionne. Board members present were Sara Volino, Mark Lombari, Ben Terry, Tyler Dixon, and Walter Conklin. Kathleen Tucciarone was absent. Stephen Smith was present as a guest. 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 August 24, 2015.

The minutes from the regular meeting held on August 24, 2015 were reviewed by the board via email. A motion was made by Ms. Volino to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 24, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lombari and all members were in favor.

The regular meeting of September 21, 2015 was cancelled due to lack of a quorum; therefore, there were no meeting minutes to approve.

The board welcomed new committee member Tyler Dixon.

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

The board discussed the need for zoning enforcement in the business district. The board discussed the need for improvements in town such as removing sign clutter at the junction of Water Street and Main Streets and improving the appearance of the traffic island in front of Malik's Liquors. The board agreed that there is a need to work with the zoning officer to come up with realistic goals for dealing with zoning violations. Mr. Conklin and Mr. Dixon agreed to work together and review the zoning code.

Other improvement suggestions included signs welcoming visitors to the Warren business district and the Warren historic district and a public art program.

Ms. Dionne reported that Caroline Wells told her that the EDB should go forward in preparing an RFP for the new website.

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

This item was discussed as part of the previous agenda item and will be discussed at the November meeting.

4. Discussion of business open house.

This agenda item was postponed until the November meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ms. Dionne, the motion was seconded by Mr. Conklin, and all members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin M. MacDonald
November 16, 2015

