

Economic Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 31st, 2019 Town Hall

**Present:** Chair, Brandon Arsenault, Jill Boynton, Jennifer Kent Weiner, Bob Raymond, Alicia Busconi, Selectman Ted Connors, Selectman Ken Latchaw, Town Planner Jerry Coogan, Town Administrator Martha Roy and Jordan Strater, Intern.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

**Minutes Approval:** J. Boynton moved to approve the minutes of November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A. Busconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

**ED Website Outline Review:** J. Strater presented a power point of the new Economic Development website outline and pictures of examples. Business success stories will be part of it. New businesses will be spotlighted in the “developmental news”. East Providence has a video like Newington. It plays on their website the same way Newington’s will. Industry logos will be on the website with links to their companies. A map of Newington will be included. A tab at the top of the website will be titled “About Newington”. On this tab will be demographics, transportation and maps of all of the utilities. This tab will also include information on the Economic Revitalization Zone.

Loopnet or some other realty service that shows available properties will be included. This data will update automatically.

Another tab would be “starting a business in Newington”. This tab will have a link to the Planning Board page that includes minutes and agendas and guides for submitting a site plan.

M. Roy will check with Civic Plus to get a firm date for the new website and let the committee know.

J. Kent Weiner thought that the business portal needs to have a link to Facebook. Discussion ensued about ensuring that negative comments would not be part of a town Facebook page. If residents have concerns or questions they should be using the e-mail link to discuss/inquire.

**Business Visitation Program:** J. Coogan updated the committee. The Fox Run Mall Management is the next group to be visited.

J. Coogan also reviewed the Piscataqua/Woodbury interchange and development. Northeast Credit union is going to build their headquarters on the 2061 Woodbury property. There is also a new office building going in to the old China buffet restaurant.

Alicia Busconi told the committee that a new Aldi's will be built on the Bugaboo Creek property beginning in April or May. The Bugaboo Creek building will be torn down and the Aldi's will be built closer to Barnes and Noble on the lot. A. Busconi also discussed the new sewer line going in and the Eversource power lines going across the parking lot. The Toys R Us building is now owned by Property Company 2.

**Portsmouth "Office Research Zone" off Gosling Road:** The committee discussed the newly proposed Office Research Zone off of Gosling Road in Portsmouth.

Discussion ensued on forward thinking uses for the industrial zone, Woodbury Ave's ability to handle the traffic with the new businesses, Newington's success, talent and hiring pools to pull from, 2019 projects and the 2019 budget.

**Adjournment:** J. Kent Weiner moved to adjourn. A. Busconi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Roy  
Town Administrator