

Town of Newington, NH
Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 29, 2018 Town Hall

Ted Connors called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Present: Ted Connors, Selectman, Ken Latchaw, Selectman, Bob Raymond, Jill Boynton, Mike Donahue, Jerry Coogan, Town Planner and Martha Roy, Town Administrator.

M. Donahue moved to approve the minutes of September 27th, 2018. T. Connors seconded the motion will all in favor.

ED Website Update: This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Business Visitation Program-Jerry Coogan:

J. Coogan gave an overview of the Business Visitation Program. He met with Tim Winters from Sprague. Mr. Winters talked about the problem of recruiting blue collar workers, Newington being "pro-business", his concerns with the Sansoucy Assessors, improved rail service and the extra land they have that can be developed. J. Coogan and T. Connors also met with Sea3. They also have problems recruiting workers. Getting permits through the state and federal government is challenging. They have a great relationship with the Town of Newington.

T. Connors reviewed his meeting with Jim Teetzel of Wilcox Industries. J. Teetzel was very positive about the town and permitting process. The Wilcox Way Ext. is expected to be finished in December.

J. Coogan told the committee that the Bugaboo Creek building is going to be torn down and a new Aldi's Grocery store will be built in it's place.

The committee wants to further discuss the waterfront land.

Bob Raymond asked about the workforce housing. T. Connors discussed the problem of getting workers over the bridge to work here because of the traffic problems.

K. Latchaw discussed the need for students to enter the vocational education and tech programs in high school. He also discussed the idea of getting workers from Maine.

Malls Field Trip: Crossing and Fox Run-Jerry thought this might be a good idea for the Committee to see firsthand. The Planning Board is concerned about a traffic pattern that should be planned for in the future. (there is one between the malls currently). Alicia Busconi told Jerry that she requested a field trip of the Economic Development Committee and the Planning Board. G. Coogan will follow up with Alicia.

Review of Broker Mixer:

M. Roy stated that a different, up-to-date laptop is needed so that the Newington ED video can be played at the mixers. The "sign in" needs to be more organized. Erol Moe's message was very good. We will add other details about the town at our next

mixer. M. Donahue stated that we need to be more integrated with the brokers. We need to make sure each of the guests is spoken to by a Committee or staff member. The Town should work with the Seacoast SIBOR on the next event. A color map of the available properties is needed. J. Strater wants to "beef up" the gift bags. A Better microphone is needed.

Bob Raymond volunteered to attend the Business Visitation Program sessions. M. Donahue requested that a letter should be sent out to each person who attended thanking them for their interest and to let us know if we can help them and their clients.

There will be no meeting in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Roy
Town Administrator