

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

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

Present: Ted Connors, Selectman, Ken Latchaw, Selectman, Michael Bergeron and Mark LaLiberte, State of NH Bureau of Economic Affairs, Gerald Coogan, Town Planner, Jeff Hiatt, Jennifer Kent Wiener, Bob Raymond, Brandon Arsenault, Mike Donahue, Alicia Busconi, Key Point Partners, Martha Roy, Town Administrator and Eleanor Boy, Recorder.

Website Analysis Presentation:

Michael Bergeron and Mark LaLiberte from the State of NH Bureau of Economic Affairs gave a presentation about how to improve the Town's website to attract businesses.

- Pictures on the website should be of people having a good time, not pictures of empty roads and snow.
- A map should be on the website showing Newington's location in the state and the region.
- The low tax rate is unique and should be featured
- The deepwater port is unique and should be featured
- Easy access to the highway should be featured
- Web users read from the left corner to the right corner and then down the left-hand side of a webpage.
- It should be easy to find the Planning Board and Selectmen's information with a picture of each person, their title and how to contact them.
- There should be easy instructions on the process to get something approved through the Planning and Zoning Boards.
- The website should feature interesting businesses and their story of how they ended up in Newington.

Election of Officers:

Jennifer Kent Weiner nominated Brandon Arsenault to be Chair of the committee.

Mike Donahue nominated Jeff Hiatt to be the Vice-Chair of the committee.

Brandon Arsenault nominated Jennifer Kent Weiner for Vice-Chair of the committee.

Jennifer Kent Weiner respectively declined the nomination.

T. Connors called for a vote. With all in favor, Brandon Arsenault was voted Chair and Jeff Hiatt Vice-Chair.

The minutes from the February 6th, 2018 meeting were approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 26th, 2018 at 6pm. Future meetings are scheduled for the last Thursday of each month.

Discussion ensued about the value of representatives of the Town visiting local businesses to make a connection and to listen to any concerns they may have. T.

Connors stressed the importance of having open communication lines with the Town's current businesses.

M. Roy let everyone know that the improvements to Woodbury Ave are going to start in April and last until late fall, maybe longer.

A letter has been sent to all the Woodbury Ave abutters, letting them know that the Selectmen have set a 5 year moratorium on any digging up of Woodbury Ave after the improvements are finished.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Eleanor Boy
Recorder