

Town of Waterboro

Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2009 – 4:00-5:30 PM
Waterboro Town Hall Annex

The meeting was called to order at 4 PM by Chairman, Chris Binette.

Roll Call: Steve Eveld, Sue Rocray, Leo Binette, Chris Binette, Dianne Holden, Tom Ursia and Guest: Todd Abbott of RDS Graphics

Secretary: Leo made the motion for Dianne to become Secretary for the Committee due to the resignation of Kerry Deangelis. Sue seconded. Voted, passed.

Approval of Minutes: Sue made the motion to accept the minutes of August 6, 2009 as written. Leo seconded. Voted, passed.

Old Business:

Signs: Chris had contacted RSD Graphics about the Town's welcoming signs. Will be contacting two other sign companies also.

Materials for signs discussed: Plywood – 5+/- yr. life; Mahogany and redwood can be sandblasted or carved, the wood has a 25 +/- yr. life; HDU (high density urethane) is a manmade product (Lakeside Market sign made of this product); and aluminum/metal. Also discussed slate, which sandblasts easily, granite is a harder product which means more labor involved in creating the sign.

Paint on signs lasts approximately 5-8 years, then usually needs to be redone. Gold leaf has a 10-14 yr. average life, but can be expensive. Imitation gold leaf in a 5 yr. vinyl is available. Individual applied letters, such as the Massabesic Middle School signs, run \$20-\$30 per letter depending on size and font. MMS signs are at least 8 ft. wide and lower to the ground.

Position of sign is important. East/west positioned signs have a longer life than north/south positioned signs.

Based on a 30" X 5' sign: made of HDU or redwood (the suggested material), sandblasted, one side, no gold leaf, painted and back side lettered is approx. \$950. each. A mahogany carved sign 30" X 5' runs approx. \$350. per lin. Ft. = \$1750. each.

Wood posts of PT can be wrapped in vinyl. Suggests something larger than 4X4. Finials cost \$110/pair.

Todd passed around samples of letters, materials and paint applications, as well as pictures of many signs he has done. The Committee thanked him for his time and information provided.

Tom spoke to the financing of the signs – where's the money and is it accessible. The Conservation Commission account has nearly \$41,000. in it, and approximately \$5,000. of it had been earmarked to replace the welcome signs. However, only Town Meeting can give the authority to spend any monies from the account. Tom feels we need a minimum of 2, maximum of 3 options when presenting to the Board of Selectmen; graphics, options and several quotes. He will look into slate prices. Chris will contact the other sign companies in town.

Debrief on Banker's Meeting: Tom summed it up. Positive meeting. Three high ranking banking officials sitting at Town Hall at one time. Good payback to continue relationship and communications with them.

SBA Incentives: Chris suggested we have an open forum and invite the 3 banks SBA experts and the local businesses to learn about capital improvements for existing buildings, among other incentives they might have. Tom suggested that a Field Rep. from SBA be asked to attend to take the lead, have the 3 bank reps also on hand to meet and make contacts with the local businesses. Tom will contact SBA for participation and timeframe of current and future incentives.

New Business: Deferred to next meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 5:35 pm made by Chris, seconded by Steve. Voted, passed.

Next Meeting: Thurs., Sept. 3, 4-5:30 PM, Town Hall Annex.

Respectfully submitted,



Dianne Holden, Secretary