

Town of Waterboro

## Economic Development Committee

### Minutes

September 10, 2014

**Call to Order:** 5:39 PM, by Chairman Leo Binette. Present: Don Holden and John Wade members. Also present: Sel. Dave Woodsome, Sel. Dennis Abbott, 20/20 Chm. Bob Powers, and guest: Sharon Abbott. Absent: Deb Harding and Jason Straetz, members.

**Agenda Review and Acceptance:** Don made the motion to accept the agenda as written. John seconded. Voted, passed.

**Minutes:** Don Holden made the motion to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2014 meeting, deleting the word 'not' from the 5<sup>th</sup> line from bottom on page 1. John seconded. Voted, passed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Announcements:** None.

#### **Old Business:**

**Draft Economic Development Chapter for the Comprehensive Plan & Facilitated/Strategic Focused Conversation with Business Community, etc.:** Bob reported that the only date available to the facilitators is November 21<sup>st</sup>., at which time 2 facilitators will be available. The Grange Hall is available. Leo, Tom and Bob will write up questions and format for the day, which will be given to the EDC for final approval. The findings draft will be available shortly after the session, which hopefully, can be used as the opening for the Economic Development Chapter for the Comprehensive Plan.

Don made the motion to hold an Economic Business Summit on Friday, November 21, 2014 from 8am to 12 noon at the Waterboro Grange Hall using facilitators from Good Group Decisions. John seconded. Voted, passed. Discussion on food, advertising, flyer to be designed, perhaps Bank sponsorship, etc.

**Committee Work Plan for 2014-15:** A work plan can be created from the outcome of the Economic Business Summit to be held on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. EDC members agreed that the work plan should also contain visitations to local businesses. Secretary to compile list of businesses.

**New Business:**

**Current Economic Development Update:** No report.

**Change Meeting date and/or place:** Discussion. John made the motion to change the meeting date to the 1<sup>st</sup>. Tuesday of each month @ 5 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Don seconded. Voted, passed.

**General Discussion:** Discussed a Chamber or creation of a Regional Chamber; which would be focused on the business community and have a working relationship with the Town. Dennis pointed out that part of Tom's job is to work economic development for the Town. The Town has no say over a Chamber. The Town can only ask if they can help, but it is not the Town's role to create a Chamber.

**Adjourn:** Leo made the motion to adjourn at 6:30 PM. John seconded. Voted, passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Holden  
Committee Secretary

Approved Oct. 7, 2014