

Town of Chesterfield Economic Development Committee

MINUTES September 18, 2014

Attendees

Bob Brockmann co-chair, Dutch Walsh co-chair, Mike Reed, Carol Pelczarski and Selectman Jon McKeon.

Also in attendance Town Administrator Rick Carrier, Jon Starbuck

Bob called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of May 8th and approved them as written.

Bob discussed the budget for 2015. The committee felt that the budget should be the same as it was in 2014, which was \$2,500.

There was discussion on mapping needs. Dutch noted that SWRPC can create maps.

The committee discussed questions they would like to see added to the Master Plan survey under the Economic Development section. They will propose the following:

1. Would you support rezoning additional land for planned economic development consistent with the town plan?
2. Would you support planned economic development of business in commercial zones?
3. If there are large parcels of land adjacent to existing commercial lots, would you be in favor of including them in any planned development? For example, if any businesses need additional space to consider locating here.
4. Do you feel the town should develop a strategy to support the development of private housing for senior residents in Chesterfield?

Dutch stated that if the this committee doesn't promote elderly housing, what group would. The committee decided not to include question 5 on senior housing to the master plan committee.

The committee would like a brief summary included in advance of the questions. The committee proposed the following:

Chesterfield hereby makes a commitment to continue to carry out economic development plans & projects in the future by a variety of means in order to enhance the community economic vitality & its quality of life.

The community must focus its economic development efforts to best utilize its resources & maximize benefits for its residents. A diversified economic base is critical to the health of the community.

Since the previous master plan your input has been used to help bring business to town to help with the tax base, guide zoning board of adjustment in variance reviews and provide direction to the planning board on zoning amendments.

From the previous Master Plan questions, on page 12 of 20 under economic development question 17, how should our town respond to prospects for growth in each of the following areas, the question for Small Retail Shops should be changed to Small Retail Stores.

The committee agreed that the 3 introductory paragraphs and questions 1 through 4 above would be given to the Master Plan committee.

Dutch noted that the term "industrial" has a negative connotation with the Master Plan. He felt "manufacturing" should replace "industrial" in the master plan.

The committee discussed holding a Meet & Greet with local businesses in the future, perhaps at the town hall.

Jon M. noted that the Planning Board is scheduled to hear a conceptual consultation for a fireworks business on Brown Avenue on the west end of town.

Jon M. noted the Right to Know law and that the Board of Selectmen has requested all committees to no use reply all when using email for town business, including setting up future committee meetings.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 9th @ 6:30 pm at the town offices. The committee will review brochures to design one for the committee. Mike will take the lead on this discussion.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by:
Rick Carrier