

Town of Chesterfield Economic Development Committee

MINUTES January 15, 2015

Attendees

Bob Brockmann co-chair, Dutch Walsh co-chair, Jon Starbuck, Don Brehm, and Selectman Jon McKeon.

Absent: Mike Reed, Carol Pelczarski

Also in attendance Town Administrator Rick Carrier

Bob called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Election of Officers – Jon M propose Bob & Dutch continue as co-chairs, seconded by Jon S. Vote was in the affirmative.

The minutes of December 11th were reviewed and approved as amended.

Dutch reported on his meeting with the manager of Pete's Tire Barn. They were pleased with the response they received from the community when they opened.

Dutch met with the owner of Highlander Arms. He reported he would like to build a facility on Route 9, and is happy to be located in Chesterfield.

Jon M spoke with Steve McGrath from Tire Warehouse. They moved to Chesterfield because there was lack of available land in Brattleboro to expand.

Jon M reported on a recent conceptual consultation at the Planning Board regarding land off from Mill Road. The conceptual consultation regarding a 45,000 square foot manufacturing facility with parking for 250. No specifics as to owner or type of manufacturing was provided at the Planning Board.

Don met with Ray at Chesterfield Tire. He bought the business that was already located there. Seventy-five percent of business comes from Vermont. He likes doing business in Chesterfield, and would like to see more leniency with the sign ordinance. Both Bob and Jon M spoke to the upcoming proposed changes to the sign ordinance.

Jon S met with Peter Brady, owner of Perkins Home Center. He choose Chesterfield because his business needed to expand when it was in Brattleboro. New Hampshire does not have a sales or income tax. Peter noted he hears from other businessmen that Chesterfield is anti-business. The committee discussed how to change the anti-business perception.

Mike provided a list of items the Committee should consider for the brochure. The Committee will work on this further for the next meeting. Dutch will compile other input.

Bob presented a draft Economic Development Committee report for the Town Report. The Committee agreed to allow Dutch to revise the report, submit it to Bob with a week for Bob to send to the Town Offices for inclusion in the Town Report.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, February 19th @ 6:30 pm. With no other business, the committee adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by:
Rick Carrier