



Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

2/21/19

7:30 pm

Room 9, Acton Town Hall, Acton, MA

Present: Larry Kenah (Chair), David Didriksen, Mike Majors, Ann Chang, Derrick Chin, Jon Benson, Josh Fischel (Clerk)

Absent: Peter Daniel, Shirley Ming, David Foley

1. Opening

Chair Larry Kenah opened the meeting at 7:31 pm.

2. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – **The meeting minutes from the EDC’s 2/7/19 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by a vote of 7-0, with minimal amendments.**
- B. Public Participation—There was none.
- C. Updates from members—The Main Street/Walker Property Committee has dissolved.
- D. Updates from Selby—Selby is absent

3. New/Special Business

- A. Respond to latest OML complaint—Larry avails us of his draft response; we discuss it. **Jon Benson moves that Larry Kenah be charged with crafting the response to OML complaint #3, regarding the meeting that took place 2/7/19. It is passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.**
- B. Discuss town meeting articles relevant to EDC—The Kelley’s Corner Infrastructure and West Acton Sewer articles are mentioned as items we might have interest in as a committee. As to the former, the expansion of the intersection has shifted so as to accommodate Bueno y Sano’s parking lot. The Charter Road entrance will have a signal and it will line up with the entrance to the K-Mart lot. There is also a resolution regarding what will happen in front of Hosmer House; there will be no takings involved in the new plan. Various historical commissions and societies are happy with the changes. The Kelley’s Corner Steering Committee is hosting two open houses, one of which coincides with our scheduled second March meeting; we will attend that in lieu of meeting on our own. David Didriksen speaks up: should we really speak up about this article at Town Meeting when this is not an article that speaks specifically to economic development? Larry points out that better traffic flow would make people more likely to shop at the businesses within the vicinity; David thinks that’s a stretch, and he objects to the idea that more sidewalks is necessarily a good thing in a place where cars are king. Jon says that Acton 2020’s number one goal was to make Kelley’s Corner a friendlier area. The sense of the meeting



is that we should say something in support of the Kelley's Corner article, with some objection (that we should abstain).

Ann requests that the EDC support the West Acton Sewer article. Derrick raises the question of whether the proposed new twin schools will be on septic or sewer; the plan is for septic for the schools. There is some contention about the costs of sewer implementation. **Ann moves that the EDC supports the West Acton Sewer article. It passes unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.**

There is an exciting discussion about whether or not to support a binding resolution about banning single-use plastic bags. We ultimately decide to survey businesses like grocery stores about their opinion so we can support businesses, as that seems to be our mission.

4. Adjournment

At 8:54 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was approved unanimously, 7-0.

List of Documents:

OML Complaint regarding the EDC meeting of 2/7/2019
Draft Minutes from February 7, 2019