

TOWN OF STOW
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the March 14, 2019 Economic Development and Industrial Commission Meeting

Members Present: Kevin Whalen, Tom Farnsworth, Jen Gero, Bob Collings

Absent: Andrew Bluestein, Serena Howlett, Jean-Claude Sureau

Kevin Whalen called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Discussion of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of February 14, 2019

Bob Collings moved to approve the minutes as written.

Tom Farnsworth Seconded.

VOTED: (4-0) Unanimously in favor (Kevin Whalen, Tom Farnsworth, Jen Gero, Bob Collings - Yea).

Public Input

None.

Members Updates

Bob Collings asked if staff would provide an update on the discussion of a public water supply for businesses in Lower Village. Jesse Steadman said recommendations from the Lower Village Business District Assessment and Market Analysis include a discussion of water. Jesse Steadman said he has reached out to comparable towns to Stow that either do not have a public water supply or have made progress towards implementing one. Staff can put together case studies of other Towns' responses for the EDIC to review. Jesse Steadman said the 495/MetroWest Suburban Edge Community Commission's final report may be of interest, to see how other towns in the region are responding to economic pressures.

Job Fair

The EDIC discussed organizing a Job Fair during the week ahead of Springfest in May. Jen Gero noted that it would be helpful to direct outreach to local orchards and day care facilities to ensure that they have a table at the fair. Valerie Oorthuys agreed to update outreach materials. The EDIC discussed the location of the Job Fair, agreeing to consider either the Collings Museum or the Pompositticut Community Center.

Sign Bylaw

The EDIC discussed whether updating the Sign Bylaw should remain on their work plan for the year and agreed that it should. Members of the EDIC reiterated that the most important sections to update are enforcement, directional signs, temporary signs, and any exemptions to the rules. The bylaw will also need to be compliant with Reed vs. The Town of Gilbert.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Oorthuys