

TOWN OF STOW
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

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

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

Absent: Andrew Bluestein

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

Discussion of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of October 3, 2019

Bob Collings moved to approve the minutes as written.

Tom Farnsworth seconded.

VOTED: (5-0) Unanimously in favor (Kevin Whalen, Bob Collings, Tom Farnsworth, Serena Howlett, Jen Gero- Yea).

Public Input

None.

Member Updates

Bob Collings said that he is concerned with the productivity of the EDIC, and asked for further action on updating the Sign Bylaw and advancing a public water supply in Lower Village. The EDIC agreed to invite John Cramer, owner of 108 Great Road, to a future EDIC meeting to discuss his development plans and his understanding of DEP's regulations which would allow him to open a restaurant at that location.

Bob Collings said that Linear Retail should be invited to a future meeting to discuss any concerns they have, using the 2015 Business Survey to guide the conversation.

Serena Howlett said she would like a legal opinion as to whether a Town may provide a public water supply for one district and not others.

Planner's Updates

Lower Village Traffic Safety Improvement Project

Valerie Oorthuys said that staff attended the final walkthrough of the Lower Village project and that the items to be finalized through E.T.&L. Corp this construction season should be complete in the coming weeks. Items such as the expansion of the infiltration system under the Lower Common and placing loam and seed along the corridor will be completed by the Highway Department next Spring.

Redevelopment of 108 Great Road

Valerie Oorthuys discussed the Special Permit application regarding razing and reconstructing 108 Great Road. The application is being considered through the Planning Board's ongoing public hearing process. The EDIC reviewed the building elevation plans and site plans for the project.

Approval of Letter to Planning Board Regarding Support of Rezoning of 29 Great Road

The EDIC reviewed a draft memo to be sent to the Planning Board as well as a draft letter to the business owner who has proposed utilizing the former Marble Hill Farm stand as a seasonal pop up shop.

The letter to the Planning Board asks that the Board consider that the use preserves a culturally significant structure and therefore should be allowed in the residential district under Zoning Bylaw Section 3.2.3.5. The letter indicates that farm stands across Stow could be considered culturally significant and the Planning Board may wish to protect the future of those farm stands through a zoning overlay district.

The letter to the business owner states the EDIC's support of locating the business in Stow and the suggestion of applying for a Special Permit through the Planning Board as a use that preserves a culturally significant structure.

Bob Collings moved to approve a memo to the Planning Board regarding seasonal retail at 29 Great Road, as amended.

Tom Farnsworth seconded.

VOTED: (5-0) Unanimously in favor (Kevin Whalen, Bob Collings, Tom Farnsworth, Serena Howlett, Jen Gero- Yea).

Bob Collings moved to approve a letter to the owners of The Prettiest Home and the Marble Hill farm stand, as amended.

Tom Farnsworth seconded.

VOTED: (5-0) Unanimously in favor (Kevin Whalen, Bob Collings, Tom Farnsworth, Serena Howlett, Jen Gero- Yea).

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Oorthuys