

TOWN OF STOW
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the October 8, 2020 Economic Development and Industrial Commission Meeting

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

Absent: Andrew Bluestein, Bob Collings

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

Discussion of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of March 12, 2020 and September 24, 2020

Tom Farnsworth moved to approve the minutes as written.

Jen Gero seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Whalen- Yea, Tom Farnsworth-Yea, Serena Howlett- Yea, Jen Gero – Yea.

Public Input

None.

Members' Updates

Kevin Whalen said Cortni Frecha, the Selectmen liaison to the EDIC, has been in contact to schedule a meeting to review the EDIC's work and describe their goals.

Town Planner's Updates

124 Great Road

Jesse Steadman said he has been in contact with the realtor for the former Mobile station. They have asked about used car sales and drive-throughs. Jesse Steadman said zoning currently prohibits drive-through food establishments and outdoor salesrooms.

Bose

Jesse Steadman said Bose is likely to leave Stow and staff are considering zoning updates to allow more flexibility for industrial uses and are prepared to work with Bose and regional firms to market the property. Jesse Steadman said it may be helpful to connect with the Bolton EDIC to understand this process better, as Bolton has more experience with industrial properties.

Vote and Recommendation for Vacancy, Discussion with David Elkins

Present: David Elkins, 55 Robert Road

Kevin Whalen said the EDIC received a letter of interest for the vacant position from David Elkins, who has been invited to discuss his interest further.

David Elkins said that his interest stems from concern over the appearance of the Lower Village Business District and the number of vacancies. David Elkins said he is interested in connecting land owners with potential leases and better understanding the dynamics of Stow's business district. As an experienced business owner, David Elkins said he feels he brings an

understanding of the needs of the business community and as a resident of Stow, he feels he understands the mix of businesses that residents would like to have in town.

Kevin Whalen moved to recommend the Board of Selectmen appoint David Elkins as a member of the Economic Development and Industrial Commission.

Tom Farnsworth seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Kevin Whalen- Yea, Tom Farnsworth-Yea, Serena Howlett- Yea, Jen Gero – Yea.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie Oorthuys