



Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Sandra Lipsey	-	Phil Bixby	-	Janice DeLima	√
William Lunt III	√	Anne Theriault	-	Dimitri Balatsos	√
Pam DiPietro-Hale	√	Chris Wasileski	-	Luc Walker	√

Council Liaison: -
Staff present: Nathan Poore, Theo Holtwijk
Others present: Bill Beier

The meeting was started at 3:34 PM.

1. Review of draft minutes of March 18 and April 1, 2015 meetings

The draft minutes of March 18 and April 1, 2015 meetings were approved as written. No minutes were prepared for the April 14 Forum. None were prepared for the May 6 meeting as there was no quorum.

2. Finalize draft Economic Development Strategy

Theo gave a brief update what has occurred since the Forum. Only minor edits had been made to the draft, but the content remained the same. He also distributed the results of the on-line survey. He asked if there were any last changes to the draft plan.

Dimitri asked if the committee could still make changes to the plan after the Council reviewed it on 5/20 and did not like certain parts. Theo replied that that would be possible and, if such was deemed needed, may help to speed up the review and acceptance of the plan by the Council. A special FEIC meeting would have to be immediately held to make any changes after 5/20, but before posting of the 5/27 Council agenda.

Janice wondered if “mill rate” should be added to the macro indicators. Nathan cautioned that the mill rate is subject to many variables and may not necessarily be an accurate indicator. He suggested that adding “commercial property valuation growth” in addition to “mill rate” may be useful. The committee agreed with that approach.

Bill felt that adding the responsible party column in the Action Plan Matrix was something he always favored. He understood why the Council had rejected that with the Comprehensive Plan. In any case, he wanted to make sure that the Council knew that the FEIC wanted to be charged with carrying out the plan. Theo noted that even with the responsible party column this was clear as it was noted in the first action item. Nathan suggested that the plan stay as

is, but that the Council also would be provided with the Action Plan Matrix in large format that would include the responsible party column. The committee liked that.

Bill stated that he felt it was a liquid plan, one that would be subject to change over time. The committee agreed with that.

3. Vote to recommend the Economic Development Strategy to the Town Council

Janice made a motion, and Dimitri seconded it, to recommend the Economic Development Strategy as revised to the Town Council. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

4. Next Steps

Next step is a review of the strategy by the Town Council on May 20 at 6:00 PM. The FEIC is requested to be present at that time. If Any red flags appear, the FEIC still has an opportunity to make a final change before the Strategy is posted for the 5/27 Council agenda. On 5/27 the Council is asked to formally accept the plan, authorize the FEIC with implementation oversight, and request a Year 1 implementation proposal. Such a proposal could be reviewed by the Council at its Annual Summer Retreat and incorporated in its Annual Work Plan.

5. Other Business

Theo noted that the Route 100 Vision Plan had been finalized as well and would be reviewed by the Council also on 5/20.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is May 20 at 6:00 PM with the Town Council.

The committee adjourned at 3:47 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, May 15, 2015