

**Economic Development Committee**  
***Meeting Minutes***  
**Monday, 26 November 2018 Meeting**  
**9:00 am**

<b>Attendees:</b>	Chair, Jim Patacchiola Vice Chair, Mike Pineo TA, Ross Perry Keith Cordial	Secretary, R. Mapp BOS, Maureen Cranson Richard Maki Town Planner, Domenica Tatasciore
<b>Guest:</b>	Lex Thomas	Susan Smiley (Snow Riders/Nashway)
<b>Non-attendees:</b>	Treasurer, Brian Kindorf	Paul Cathcart

**Call to Order: 9:03 am**

Meeting Minutes of 23 July 2018 approved.

1st: M. Pineo                      2nd: J. Patacchiola                      All

Meeting Minutes of 22 October 2018 approved.

1st: M. Pineo                      2nd: J. Patacchiola                      All

No Meeting Minutes taken at 27 August and 24 September Meetings (R. Mapp not present.)

**L. Thomas Update:**

- Update of Sterling Business Forum: Was a great success and am very pleased at the turnout of the event.
- She has received favorable comments regarding the Forum and feels that the EDC Group would benefit by conducting the first few meetings. If after that, there is no interest in anyone stepping forward to lead this group, then it will be considered defunct.
- Lex has reached out to several of the attendees and would like to send out Thank you notes to the attendees of the Forum. She would also like to take 5 hours of her Contracted (December 2018 through March 2019) time per month to get going on the Small Business Forum (SBF).  
1st. M. Pineo                      2nd R. Mapp                      All in favor
- R. Mapp offered to help in creating the SBF
- Noticed that the larger business don't seem to require assistance like the smaller ones do.
- Spoke with Paul C regarding their not being an article in the Meetinghouse News (MHN) this month. One of the other papers covered the story. Lex stated that she did not place it in the MHN by design. She plans to place an article in next month's paper (December) to keep the story going.
- The MHN will not be publishing a newspaper in January and February.
- Rosanne M will follow up with Paula Meola, Meola Dance Studio to discuss their needs and present their needs to the Cultural Council at the next meeting.

**Guest Speaker: Susan Smiley**

- Susan Smiley is the President of the local Snowmobile Club in the area.
- Provided a Power Point presentation.
- She is looking for guidance and information in bringing the rights of the Snowmobile Club to Sterling, connecting them to neighboring trails in abutting towns.
- Maureen C suggested she have contact with the Land Use Committee and Recreation Departments in Sterling. Land Trust usage.
- She would like to incorporate an "Adopt a Trail Program" in Sterling

### **Sterling Pride:**

- A date has been chosen for the 2nd Sterling Pride day. It coincides with **Earth Day, 22 April 2019**, Monday, Patriots Day.
- Richard plans to commence this effort in February.
- He will contact the Boys and Girls Clubs, YAHOO
- Suggested it be placed in the December Issue of MHN to look for sponsors, etc.
- Labels will need to be purchased to cover over the dates on the previous signs ~\$25.00.
- Keith offered to help with the labels.

### **Budget update.**

- No Information

### **Town Activity: M. Pineo**

No input

### **Farmer's Market|**

No Input

### **Master Plan Committee**

- Domenica T, Town Planner, stated that she has spoken with Arden, Chair of the Master Plan Committee. The last meeting was cancelled because of inclement weather.
- It has been rescheduled for 13 December 2018. It will be a combination meeting on Facilities and Land Use.
- She will be meeting with Chris of the North Central Chamber of Commerce in a week to discuss Sterling.

### **BOS Report/Update: M. Cranson**

#### **Abandoned/Nuisance Property. R. Perry**

- Sterling Inn. Still looking for funding. She has been making progress in her quest for answers/direction. There may be an additional person interested in the property.
- 3 Princeton Road. No movement Owner may consider rehabbing the building.
- Gun Shop on School Street. No movement.
- Domenica asked if there were a listing of the properties that are under this umbrella and if they are placed in any particular category
  - Maureen C will send her a the listing. It was stated that the list was formulated by many boards/committees and Fire and Police Departments.
  - It was stated to Domenica that the BOS had sent out letters to the delinquent property owners 2 years ago to then again last year. Not many responded.
- Sarah, Building Commissioner, has been diligent in pursuing the properties.

#### **40B Housing**

- 40B Housing. Concerns from Abutters for this project (Chase Hill Road). BOS offered space for the Abutters and Builders to talk to mitigate the impact.

#### **Facade Program**

- Sterling may be looking into a Facade Program whereby the owners may be assisted in purchasing paint for refurbishing their facade or may get some type of tax advantage....

- **WebCam**

Ross P. would like to add a webcam to the Town Website to show the Town Common, Center and possibly the Town Hall

- Discussions on placement of WebCam could be on the Town Hall, Library, 1835 Building, etc. to get the best advantage.

## **EDC Sub Committee** (P. Cathcart, R. Maki and M. Pineo)

- Richard M stated they "had a meeting"
- Barbara Roberti (Lake Association) stated that Mr. Stone would do a soil test/septic test. The test was completed and tested positive for micro-biological contamination. Suggestions of a tight tank or 2 may work. D. Favereau suggested a Presby system.
- there is also a major erosion problem dealing with "storm water" from Swett Hill Road working its way down to the beach and then consequently running into the lake
- B. Roberti gave a presentation the BOS last week. She suggested that the beautification of the area be on hold till the septic system is addressed.
- There is a slightly less than \$1M bond for improvements at the Town Beach

## **On Going Projects.**

- All Boards Meeting. Will there be a follow up.
  - Richard Maki would like a meeting with other boards to discuss items that the EDC is working on to determine who should pursue joint issues.. will hold at a later date.
- P. Cathcart suggested putting signs up with "Littering" signs.
  - Questions open: Where should they be placed.
  - D. Maki will check with DPW for their sign manufacturer
- R. Perry will look into delinquent properties.
- Worcester St. Garage- SOLD and is underway with improvements. Still work to be done.

## **Parking Update.**

- No input at this time.

## **Town Center Revitalization Project**

- Will be placed on next months agenda.

## **Next MEETING:**

☐☐ **Monday, 17 December 2018, 9:00 am. BOS Mtg. Room**

## **Meeting Changes for January 2019 Move to Thursdays in 2019**

Adjourn 11:08 am      Motion R. Mapp                      2nd M. Pineo                      All in favor.