

DRAFT MINUTES

Exeter Economic Development Commission

September 26, 2017

Present: Lizabeth MacDonald-Chair, Don Clement-Selectman Rep, Darren Winham- Economic Development Director, John Tremblay, Mike Dawley, Madeline Hamel, and Ian Smith. Town Manager, Russ Dean also attended.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Lizabeth MacDonald.

2. Work Session

- The Board discussed the mission statement of the Commission based on the information from the charter.
- These statements were discussed at length to see how they would pertain to the current climate.
- Two to three major committee breakthrough objectives include TIF items, 79E. Discussion ensued about what breakthrough meant and what items should be included here. They discussed tax base, and what this meant for this committee and the town.
- The town discussed maximizing the opportunities in the existing spaces. Maximizing what is in existence, which would include town infrastructure.
- The Board discussed workforce housing and what it meant for the town and this Board. Housing was discussed at length.
- So far, the Board had two items they considered breakthroughs. Tax Base and Improving Infrastructure. The Board discussed what should be the third item.
- The Board discussed return of investment and how they may determine metrics around this.
- The Board discussed metrics, and if figuring out what the metrics should be and how to track them should become a goal. There was discussion if the metrics would be required as part of what was already a goal, and maybe it didn't need to be its own piece.
- The Board discussed if the third breakthrough should be quality of life, even though it was hard to measure they could determine some metrics around it. Quality of life in the town effects retention and drawing in others. Quality of life was decided to be a "red" item, not a goal but something to keep in the mission statement.
- It was discussed that retain and develop existing businesses could be the third breakthrough item. This was agreed upon, and it would be easy to measure.
- Ms. MacDonald said she would type up the items on the paper and distribute to the Board for review for the Board to discuss at the next meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Dionne

