

Town of Maynard
Economic Development Committee
101 Main Street, Room 202
April 7, 2015, 8:00 a.m.

Attendees: Chair Chris Worthy, Town Planner Bill Nemser, Jack Mackeen, Ron Calabria, Paul Nickelsberg, Assistant Town Administrator Andrew Scribner-MacLean, Melissa Levine-Piro, Sarah Cressy, Lynda Thayer, Ellen Duggan
Chair Worthy called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

The newest member Sarah Cressy from the Assabet Valley Chamber of Commerce was introduced by Assistant Town Administrator Andrew Scribner-Maclean

Visitors

Andrew and Paul had met with Joe Kuefler head of the tenant association at Clock Tower Place was invited to attend the meeting, if he is able to attend would like to speak for five minutes. The main value is he has created an internal network at Clock Tower. Paul added that he is motivated to see things change, bring some of the woes to the committee to help to get the building rented. Saracen group is meeting with the town members next week.

The next scheduled meeting is election day, there was discussion of whether to change the date. If the committee is allowed to meet, the meeting will be held on the fifth, if not the following Tuesday.

Discussion of Town's Liquor License Policies and Regulations for Input to BOS

Assistant Town Administrator Andrew Scribner-MacLean stated the Board of Selectmen (BOS) were looking for input on the alcohol polices were summarized in the email. Andrew went thru the information. Dormant licenses can be taken back at any time, but the Town generally gives 6 months to get in order, or sell the license. The Town holds the license, but the business can sell it at a large profit. There are several dormant licenses but the town still needs to approve the sale, the BOS wanted the EDC to weigh in on this and give a recommendation on whether to follow state guideline or be more restrictive and come up with a policy. The committee discussed the different circumstances under which the licenses become dormant. In some cases the business no longer exists but the owner stills holds the license, in some cases the business has closed due to illness or fire. If the business wants to open in another location that is allowed, but when the business has closed and the owner holds the license, they have six months to sell the license or surrender the license. ABCC says you can pull the license immediately but recommends giving six months. The question came up as to the price being too high in some cases, can the town regulate this if there are businesses wanting to come into town but no license available, some businesses will wait it out, others will go to another town. It was discussed whether the town can institute a timeline for these businesses to act , show there is a reasonable plan or sell the license, if the business ceases for more than 60 days. Andrew will put together a summary of this discussion send out committee and then send on to the Selectmen.
Local manager has to be listed on the liquor license, section 22.2 is hard to enforce, managers change, should there be a modification in the language. The committee did not take action on this section.
The town has final approval on the transfer of the license.

Recommendation to BOS for use of Downtown funds: Downtown enhancement fund has \$100,000 in account unspent. Bill Nemser handed out the latest draft of the recommendations of the committee on expending the funds. The committee discussed different options and consensus was it should cover

more than just downtown. Chair Worthy stated the Board of Selectmen controls the distribution of the funds, they are looking for a recommendation on how to spend. When a proposal goes forward, it requires sustainability that is a decision for the Selectmen. Redo the draft and discuss at the next meeting. The question was raised as to Eric Wings proposal and will the Selectmen will approve that while other ideas are being discussed. The Selectmen are looking for a plan for the whole amount instead of carving up into a lot of different ideas.

Updates from Working Groups:

- a. Update by Business Inhibitors Group: The group met, we need members.
- b. Update by Data Group: Has a final of school capacity chart, met last week, hoping to get approval at the next meeting, there was a handout for review.
- c. Update by Marketing Group – Jack reported that the subcommittee had a meeting with Allen Quinn, went thru a lot of same things as Eric Wing proposal, identified pages of things that should be part of a community calendar, identified pages of things schools, events other town activities, how to make interactive and interconnect. Generate a list of things, Dave Griffins website still exists and contains a lot of the information that has been discussed. A piece of getting to implementation of town calendar already exists, Dave Griffin will come in and talk about. The question came up who implements this and continually updates. Andrew stated if BOS approve tonight the committee can start the RFP.
- d. Update by Targeted Investments Group: Bill attended a workshop on branding on public areas, sent out info from the workshop.

A motion was made by Bill Nemser to adjourn, seconded by Andrew Scribner-MacLean.
Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.