

Notes from Spencer Economic Development Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 25, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
Spencer Town Hall/Conference Room A

In attendance:

John Stevens, Shirley Shiver, Chris Woodbury, Paul Dell'Aquila (Town Planner)

c.t.o 7:05 p.m.

Chris made a motion to adopt minutes of 6/27/19; second by John; motion passed 2-0 (Chris& John). Shirley was not present at that meeting and did not vote on minutes.

Paul gave his Planner's Report.

Paul reported that he has been appointed to the executive board of the Southern Worcester County EDO; the region hasn't had EDO designation in several years and the designation will help the region be more competitive on federal grants.

There was discussion about recent vacancies in downtown and potential sales of property.

Chris noted the issue of deed restriction against tobacco sales at Alpha Mart location. Shirley suggested speaking with Town Council about how that could be remedied.

There was additional discussion about the Downtown Design Guidelines being finalized by Harriman; Harriman presented a near-final version with graphics for EDC feedback.

Paul reported that there would be a kick off to the MDI parking study in the next month or so after consultant Stantec gathers data. There will be an open-house format similar to the one for Design Guidelines in April, likely after Labor Day.

Action Item Updates

John and Paul gave an update on the Spencer Street pARTy. He and Paul have been doing various outreach and fundraising and vendor and artist details are being finalized.

Chris noted he would be able to help with the sandbox for sand being donated by Bond.

Paul noted that there should be some Town discussion on better coordination and event permitting with Parks & Rec and other boards to avoid future scheduling conflicts.

Paul will be meeting with Tony ahead of the August 12 BOS meeting to finalize the EDC presentation.

New Business

Paul reported on his ongoing hotel research and his discussions with the Mass Film Office

Next meeting: tentatively set for end of September (no August meeting)

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Shirley, second by Chris. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Notes compiled and submitted by Paul Dell'Aquila

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