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**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**
**Economic Development
Committee**
**P.O. BOX 360 – 1 Main Street
BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360**

<http://www.brookline.nh.us>

*Minutes
Economic Development Committee
April 18, 2017*

Attendees included Steve Russo, Tad Putney, Wendy Walter, Donna Marsh, Ron Pelletier, Gerrell Smith, Peter D'Agostino, Valerie Ogden, Eric Bernstein, Eddy Arnold and Valérie Rearick.

Minutes

Ron moved to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2016 meeting. Seconded by Steve. All voted yes.

Signs Entering Brookline

Wendy reached out to John Weidman and Sid Hall. Both are willing to help with the design and wording. **Tad** said that we need to have 4 or 5 design ideas to submit to the Selectboard and have the content. Members will email Valérie with ideas and we will review them at the next meeting. We need a theme for the sign (i.e. ice factory, railroad bed). It was agreed to have 2 signs on each side of the business district on Route 13 for now. Later a third and different sign could be put on Route 130.

Water Options

Tad said that back in 1968 the then EDC discussed town water and business development on Route 13. Tad reached out to Roger Skillings who suggested contacting Pepperell and see if we could tie up to their system. Tad will see if Roger can attend the next meeting.

Business Update

The new Donut Express is now open at the Sunoco gas station (where DD used to be) The General Store is closed and for sale. Members talked about advertising the building (Yankee magazine, Chronicle, Union Leader, Telegraph), as well as the use of the second floor as potential living space for future owners. The dance studio is still operating on the second floor for now until the owner finds another location or the store is sold.

Bridal Show

Valérie said that she has already been in contact with vendors from last year. **Ron** asked Valérie to email him a reminder with the October 1st date.

Newsletter

Valérie asked members to email her articles / ideas for articles.

Other Items

- *Mixed Use Zoning*. The Committee talked about revisiting Mixed Use and all agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. **Ron** said that there was a lot of work done but we need to better educate people. Valérie will prepare a summary of the work done in the past, including the Vision Forum, Master Plan update, etc.
- *Old Home Days*. The Committee briefly discussed reviving the event. Members agreed that many volunteers would be needed as it is not exactly what the EDC charter is about.
- *Spring Small Business Forum*. It was agreed that there was not enough time to organize such event.
- *Forum / Roundtable with Business Owners*. Shortly after its creation, the EDC set up a forum with business owners in October 2012. Members agreed that having another session in the fall would be beneficial.
- *Garden / landscape on lot H-39*. Considering the late hour, this was not discussed in great details but **Eddy** volunteered to reach out to the Cornerstone Bible Church and possibly work with them.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, May 16th – 6:30 pm.

Agenda items:

- signs
- mixed use
- market general store
- Skillings / water
- session with businesses in the fall

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by Valérie Rearick.