



Milton Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes – 9-10-2015
WBOC Conference Room - 5:30 PM
1 The Square, Milton

1. The meeting came to order at 5:30 PM. Steve Crawford chaired the meeting as Bob Howard was going to be late.
2. The following people were in attendance:

Committee Members:
 - Bob Blayney
 - Mike Clark
 - Michela Coffaro
 - Steve Crawford
 - Jim Crellin
 - Alex Donnan
 - Bob Howard
 - Norma Kraus
3. The agenda was agreed to as published.
4. The minutes of the 7/16/15 meeting were presented and approved.
5. Announcements - See end of minutes

6. Old Business Item:

6.1 Status Sustainability Subcommittee – Michela Coffaro reported that the subcommittee has met several times to develop plans and identify action items that the subcommittee sees as necessary to move forward with making a recommendation to Council on ways for the town to support sustainability initiatives.

The Sustainability Sub-Committee has recommended discussing short term Projects: They are 1} Water Usage meaning " What is Your Water Footprint?", 2} Sustainable recreation, 3} Tracking our waste and recycling in our town of Milton and improving usage, 4} Improving recycling of grocery plastic bags, and 5} Promoting composting by residents. They are interested in hearing from the residents of the town of Milton and will consider doing an inventory of Sustainability actions practiced here in Milton.

Bob Blayney reported that he has obtained from data from the sanitation company from August 2014 thru August 2015 re: tonnage of garbage, recyclables and yard wastes. With this data the subcommittee will be able to track the success of their efforts to reduce garbage and yard wastes and increase recycling.

Michela and Bob Howard will report the activities of the subcommittee to the Town Council and Mayor at the September 14th Council meeting.

6.2 2016 EDC Budget Status – Bob Howard reported that he has heard nothing about the status of the EDC budget request. Steve Crawford reported the same. The new budget will be in place starting on October 1st.

6.3 Status Signage Project – Alex Donnan reported that the location of the gateway sign to be located on Preswick Properties on Route 1 South is still in flux. He is working to finalize the location.

The Governor's Walk sign is on a temporary hold due to a discussion about the location of the Governor's Walk. At a recent Council meeting Steve Crawford suggested that the town consider relocating the walk to the side of the library due to issues at the current location. As a result, Alex is waiting for a decision from Council before any more work is done. He has secured an extension on the USDA grant so that the money will be available when needed.

6.4 Milton Calendar/Poster Report – Bob Howard reported that based on information from Rich Miller that he will pursue this with the Chamber of Commerce. The EDC involvement is complete.

6.5 Status of Possible Merchant Appreciation Event - Jim Crellin and Norma Kraus reported that there is no updated status but this is still an item to be worked. Norma suggested that in her view this should be more of a conference for businesses in the town to help identify opportunities that the EDC and/or town can consider to help businesses to succeed.

As part of this discussion, Jim suggested that it would be very beneficial if there could be a story written about the success of the town in attracting and supporting new and old businesses in the town as well as the refurbishment of the theater and the Mercantile building. After some discussion about this, the committee agreed that this was something very worthwhile. Jim will contact Maddy Lauria from the Cape Gazette to see about getting this done.

6.6 Status of EDC Advisor for New Small Business – Steve Crawford reported that due to the workload associated with the new town budget there is no updated status to report. Waiting to get feedback from the town about the updated document.

6.7 Status on Chamber Brochure Support – Steve Crawford/Mike Clark - It was reported that this item has been completed as the new Chamber of Commerce brochure has been sent out.

7. New Business:

7.1 Start of Holiday Event Planning – Bob Howard explained that since the budget for 2015 closes at the end of the month, the committee needed to make a decision as to what we should plan in support of the upcoming holiday season so as to take advantage of the \$800 budgeted for this. After much discussion it was decided that Bob Blayney, Jim Crellin and Norma Kraus would be on a subcommittee to include 3 town merchants to work out the details of how to support the holidays with the \$800. In addition, it was voted and approved to have Irish Eyes submit an invoice for the \$800 so that the money will be available after the end of September.

7.2 Discussion on Statements Made at Council Meeting Re: Real Estate Agents Steering People Away from Milton – Steve Crawford reported that at a recent Council meeting a couple of residents made statements that real estate agents were steering people away from Milton. Steve thought it would be a good idea to investigate. After much discussion, it was decided that Steve would attempt to get the names of the individuals who made the statements so that we can verify the reasons, if true. Bob Blayney will assist with this effort, as he is a real estate agent and has contacts and information that could be helpful.

Announcement – Bob Howard made an announcement that for personal reasons he will very shortly be changing his permanent address to his house in Lewes. As a result, he will no longer be able to be a member of EDC. And since he is the chairman of the EDC, the EDC will need to select/appoint a new chairperson. No one who is currently on the committee is willing to take on the responsibility. So until a new chairperson is selected/appointed, Steve Crawford will continue to schedule and run the monthly meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 8th at 5:30** in the WBOC Conference Room.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Crawford

Attachment: Action Items from 9-10-15 Meeting

- **Bob Howard – 2016 EDC Budget**
- **Michela Coffaro – Status Sustainability Subcommittee**
- **Alex Donnan – Current activities and status of Signage Project**
- **Steve Crawford – Status of EDC Advisory Proposal**
- **Steve Crawford/Bob Blayney – Real Estate Issue**
- **Jim Crellin – Potential Cape Gazette story about Milton’s revival**
- **Bob Blayney/Jim Crellin – Status of Holiday Expenditure**

