

Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2009

Present: Susan Fuller, Jason Lenk, Pete Ventura, Doug Clark, Chris Mueller, Tom Elliot
Staff: James Cambell

I. Call to order

The meeting started at 7:35

II. Agenda

The agenda was amended to remove the September 11, minutes approval.
Moved by Susan, second by Pete

III. Public Comments

Maggie Moore commented to the committee regarding her interest in what the EDC is or has been doing. No further comments were made.

IV. Minutes

Susan made motion to approve, Pete Second. All were in favor

V. SWAT Analysis and Town Council Meeting

Chair Mueller discussed his meeting with the town council on Monday night regarding the SWAT analysis matrix. The area of concern first brought up was the culture and recreation and the assessment made by the EDC that it is correctable weakness. Chair Mueller indicated that we should move this to neutral. Doug Clark indicated that we should keep it the way it is. No further discussion or recommendation to change was made. Additionally, the status quo comment in the bottom of the matrix was seen as not necessary. Three was discussion to just put status quo. Chair Mueller stated that we should start the preparation of the external swat analysis. Doug Clark recommended moving forward with the completion of the SWAT analysis in relation to the business analysis downtown.

VI. Draft Strategic Plan Analysis

The committee moved to start assessing the draft strategic plan. The committee recommends several additions to the document which are as follows:

- a. Average home sales prices
- b. Add unemployment rates in town
- c. Discussion on public infrastructure
- d. Assessment of meals and rooms tax
- e. Future trends regarding UNH and its planned increase
- f. Commercial and municipal assets

The assessment of the small increase housing permits has shown a low trend in increase population in the town of Durham. Additionally, the thought of putting in an executive sweet in Durham for the self employed was mentioned.

Other comments included putting together a survey to question the public to determine their location of employment. Tom volunteered to assess the above additional information for the next EDC meeting

It was in agreement that all individuals of the EDC should review the external swat prior to the next meeting.

VII. Other Comments

Chair Mueller spoke about taste of New England going out of business and that we should meet with them regarding the shut down. Additionally, we should be making a better attempt to meet with other business in town for possible support and information. Discussion of using an interview guide followed with a possible Q&A use for members of the EDC meeting with local business.

Jason made a motion to adjourn, Pete second. Meeting was adjourned at 9:03