

**DRAFT MINUTES
TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
February 6, 2015**

Committee Members Present: Altman, Arthur, Colbert, Hand

Committee Members Absent: Iacoppi, Rodgers

Others Present: Councilmember Kelly, Community Services Director Donery, Interim Planning Director Henderson, Town Manager Stutsman, Contract Project Manager Gerhard Epke, residents Steve Lamb and Richard Burns, merchant Evan Green

Call to Order Chair Colbert called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

Minutes of January 6, 2014 On motion by Arthur, seconded by Altman, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Open Time for Public Expression Richard Burns, a 45 year San Anselmo resident was introduced. Steve Lamb expressed concern with paper in windows of vacant businesses downtown.

Action Items

Committee Resolution-Proposed Changes

Donery reviewed the proposed changes to the Committee resolution. On motion by Colbert, seconded by Arthur, the Committee voted unanimously to send the proposed changes to the Town Council for approval.

Donery presented the City of Portsmouth EDC Action Plan as an example of something the Committee may want to do. At the next meeting the Committee will work on setting priorities for the year.

Discussion Items

Committee Membership Update

There is currently one opening on the Committee. Colbert would like to have a local merchant on the Committee; Altman has encouraged Evan Green to apply; Arthur suggested that Emebet Bellingham from the Tea Shop might be interested; Colbert mentioned that Gregory Costanza, from Venus and Virgo might be interested.

Town Council Liaisons Update

Doug Kelly has joined the EDC; Kay Coleman is no longer on the EDC but will serve as the Council's liaison to the merchants.

Next Steps

a. Subcommittee Work

Concern was expressed that the subcommittee format is not working. Should we have a representative from another town, such as Novato, Petaluma or Healdsburg come speak to our group? Staff will reach out and find someone to bring in as a speaker at an EDC meeting.

b. Dr. Eyler's Recommendations

It was agreed that at the March meeting we will focus on Dr. Eyler's recommendations. We need to identify which of his points we want to focus on.

c. Other

There was discussion regarding what is going on Downtown and the number of vacancies. Colbert suggested contacting commercial realtors to get their perspective on the following issues:

- Unusual vacancy rates
- Targeting certain types of merchants
- What is the Town missing?

It was agreed that the members would contact the following realtors:

- Jay Murphy (Altman)
- Steve Easley (Arthur)
- Matt Storms (Colbert)
- Haden Ongaro (Marc)

Committee members should get their findings to Donery by February 25.

What's New in San Anselmo Business

Armstrong Garden Center is going in to the old Sunnyside Nursery.
Work is proceeding on the Olive Oil store in the old Shadows location.
There was discussion regarding window art in the vacant store fronts.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 2, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Henderson