

**Town of Waldoboro**  
**Economic Development Committee**

**Minutes**

**May 20, 2016**

**1. Call to order**

Jan Visser called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

The following attending committee members constituted a quorum:

Bob Butler, Dick Glidden, John Lawrence, Jennifer Merritt, Jan Visser, Ted Wooster

Also present were Emily Reinhart and Katie Winchenbach.

**2. Approval of March Meeting Minutes**

The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2016 meeting.

**3. Chairman's report – Jan Visser**

Jan said that Caren Clark and Richard Genthner have resigned from the committee and no longer wish to be on its circulation list.

Ted Wooster, who now has broadband Internet with LCI, has a new e-mail address: [Twooster1@tidewater.net](mailto:Twooster1@tidewater.net)

Jan said Waldoboro's Administrative Assistant, Liam Ducharme, has confirmed EDC's minutes and agendas are now on the town website and that scheduled EDC meetings are back on the town calendar.

**4. Planning Board Update – Ted Wooster and Emily Reinhart**

Atlantic Storage Center, LLC, located on the Route One hill below the gas station, submitted an application to expand. Chuck Campbell, former Planning Board Chairman, assisted the applicant. There was some discussion of the State requirement for run-off mitigation, including the need for buffers. The applicant confirmed oak trees on the property were not to be touched. The Planning Board unanimously approved the Site Plan Review

Next month the Planning Board will consider the application for the: activity center on Manktown Road. Septic system plans are done. The Board is awaiting revised drawings and will review them at their June meeting. The business caters to young gymnastics prospects, possibly up to age 5. The center will teach older kids, as well. And, in response to Ted Wooster's question, the center will also have programs for seniors. The owner, Janice Cormier, is discussing a shuttle bus to run from the Sproul Block to her location. The owner expects to break ground by late summer. The facility will be visible from Route One and it's highly likely that the business will collaborate with Stacy Gogolinski's.

There has been no movement on the empty Ralph's Chevrolet lot and building. Jenn Merritt said that she expects completion of the Hannaford expansion will add value to the property across the way. There was some speculation that an additional entrance from Route One might be needed. Ted Wooster cautioned that the proposed change could affect the traffic light at the Route 32/Route One intersection.

The up-dated sign ordinance is reportedly available for review on the town website. It will be on the June warrant. The final version has taken into account comments made at the public hearing.

#### **5. Communications Technology Committee – John Lawrence**

Downtown Village. LCI has run its fiber in the downtown village and expects to turn on its services. Ted Wooster reported his LCI services are now available. He signed up for Internet and IPTV (Internet Protocol Television), opting to subscribe to a different phone service. Bob Butler and Jenn Merritt reported that, at the most recent WBA meeting, Sam Pennington, owner of Maine Antique Digest, reported LCI's fiber broadband Internet service to be excellent. Installation went smoothly.

Old Augusta Road (OAR). Installation along OAR will commence as soon as Fairpoint and/or CMP have approved LCI's make-ready applications. LCI has had a tree surgeon already operating along OAR to prepare for make-ready work. John is near completion with his efforts to sign people up for LCI services.

John said LCI's competitors have come out of a deep slumber and are now knocking on doors to ensure they do not lose existing customers to LCI.

Jenn Merritt pointed out that LCI will hold for three years, its offered discounts for Internet, IPTV and telephone services even in areas of Waldoboro where LCI does not yet have a presence. Those interested must complete LCI's application form in order to reserve the discount for the time when LCI fiber becomes available in those unserved areas.

The Communications and Technology Committee is going to hold workshops about the types of businesses that could benefit from fiber broadband. It will also host a

workshop for residents of OAR to acquaint them with the full range of LCI services and service options.

John Lawrence emphasized that current Time Warner Cable customers having connectivity problems will not find a better time to get TWC to reconsider its service levels. He specifically mentioned homes in the Moose Meadow Lane area, where TWC has consistently refused to provide service and is now expressing an interest in doing to.

TWC has apparently submitted a new franchise agreement for the town's consideration. The old TWC franchise agreement has expired.

#### **6. MRC/Fiberight**

Bob Butler brought up the importance of Article #34 on the June 14<sup>th</sup> Warrant. It essentially asks Waldoboro voters if they want to continue their relationship with the Municipal Review Committee after 2018, when the town's current contract with PERC expires. In addition, it asks Waldoboro voters to confirm their acceptance of MRC's candidate to succeed PERC for the disposal of Waldoboro's garbage.

Butler pointed out that the MRC/Fiberight option would produce a cost reduction over EcoMaine and PERC of \$16,000 to \$49,150 *per year*. Over 15-years, those annual reductions aggregate rapidly to \$240,000 or \$737,250. "Let's not throw our money away," he said. He emphasized the need for Waldoboro's voters to understand the importance of continuing with MRC, which has the expertise and experience to advocate for its 187 community members.

#### **7. New Business: Guide to Doing Business in Waldoboro**

The old comprehensive plan, completed in 1998, mandated the creation of a business guide for Waldoboro. It was never completed. Bob Butler suggested that committee members meet informally every Friday morning at 0800 Hours to work on the guide until they complete the work. The first Friday morning meeting for work on the guide will take place on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Butler  
Interim Secretary