

September 11, 2013 @ 5:30 P.M.

Economic Development Committee - Corporate Development Workgroup

The Economic Development Committee meeting included only the Corporate Development/Shovel Ready Sites Workgroup. The meeting was held on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 in the conference room at the Wendell Community Center. Present were Edward Morrell; Donald Brown; Paul White; Planning Director Zunilda Rodriguez; Commissioner Virginia Gray; and Town Manager Teresa Piner. There were eight residents in attendance that completed the meeting sign-in sheet.

Ms. Rodriguez welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. She discussed the purpose of the EDC as an appointed citizen led group that has been meeting regularly since March to help strategize and implement the town strategic plan. Ms. Rodriguez introduced Don Brown who provided an overview on the purpose of the meeting and led the workgroup conversation.

Mr. Brown noted that the workgroup intent was to discuss economic development opportunities for area property owners, talk informally about your future plans, and examine how these economic opportunities and developments planned for the Wendell community may benefit you in your decision-making processes over the short and long-term. Mr. Brown noted he was interested in gauging how many would be interested or not in having their property listed in the town's available property for sale or lease or undergo the steps to be considered for the county's shovel ready sites program.

Attendees listened to the brief overview and asked questions of staff and workgroup members. Questions posed by residents included the following:

1. How often does the workgroup meet? Where can they find the meeting schedule? Is it open to the public?
2. What is the purpose of the workgroup? What are trying to accomplish?

Staff responded to resident inquiries by noting that EDC information is available online at www.townofwendell.com under government section and specifically within the citizen board area. Ms. Rodriguez and Don Brown offered information on current and future development opportunities and assets available in close proximity to property owned by residents in attendance.

Residents at the meeting listened to the development overview and offered the following recommendations to staff and the Corporate Development Workgroup:

1. Invite additional property owners in the area to similar meetings such as this one. In particular, invitations should be extended to the neighboring parcels.
2. Extend an invitation for the local Baptist College to get involved in this process as well.
3. Attendees present today would like to attend the other future meetings as well and would like to receive invitations.

A resident expressed an interest in having his property listed in the town's available property search engine site as well as for consideration again in the county shovel ready site program. He noted that he

has environmental assessment documents from the previous time when his property was being considered for Wake County Shovel Ready Program. Staff noted we would follow-up with him to try to obtain copies of the environmental assessments. The corporate development workgroup members expressed an interest in following up with the resident to learn more about what went right or wrong with their shovel ready process to gather lessons learned in moving forward.

Each property owner group in attendance completed a form expressing interest in having their property available for sale or lease in the future. The EDC members noted they would follow-up with them individually.

Next steps outlined by the workgroup included the following:

- Contact all meeting attendees individually who attended for additional follow-up.
- Begin outreach processes for the next set of meetings with prospective property owners in the area. Identify and confirm the meeting date with committee.
- Begin to create a list of information needed by property owners for placement in the database and work them in getting information posted online.

There were no further comments expressed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.