

ROUTE 6 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: 9:15AM by Joyce Stille

PLACE: Columbia Town Hall

ROLL CALL: Eric M. Trott (Planner – Town of Coventry); John Pagini (Planner – Town of Bolton); Elaine Buchardt (EDC – Town of Andover); Jana Butts (WINCOG/Planner – Town of Columbia); ; Joyce Stille (Town Administrator – Town of Bolton); Vera Englert (EDC/PZC – Columbia; Carmen Vance (Selectman – Columbia); Leigh Ann Hutchinson(PZC – Town of Andover)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Vance and seconded by Pagini to adopt the minutes of March 12, 2012 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Vance and seconded by Pagini to adopt the minutes of March 26, 2012 as presented.

Vera expressed her concern with the fact that a vote was conducted on the Columbia concept after only one meeting of review. Her expectation was that at least three meetings were to occur to evaluate the concept further. Vera believes there is no consensus in Columbia on the alternative and it has already been voted on by the REDC.

Carmen indicated that the roundabout concept has been determined to be the concept to proceed with and that adjustments to that concept are likely still going to occur over time to address outstanding issues.

Jana suggested the correction of 'Village with a roundabout' instead of 'roundabout with a Village'.

Elaine and Jana should be added to the list of meeting attendees.

The motion passed with the two corrections indicated above, with Vera in opposition and Leigh Ann abstaining.

Jana further commented that it can viewed that the vote was taken quickly and recognizes that Vera was not comfortable with the decision. Further, it is understood that Vera's proper ability to comment on the matter is in question.

Eric suggested adding a 'footnote' to the text of the narrative associated with the concept to indicate the need to address visibility and view concerns associated with existing businesses at the Lighthouse

Page 2

RTE 6 REDC Minutes

April 23, 2012

Corner node. This approach was taken with the Andover node to address some outstanding concerns. Joyce indicated that she can contact CROG to request the footnote be added.

TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Potential dates were discussed for public forums to review the status of the project. June 7 was chosen for Columbia at the Senior Center and June 12 in Andover.

It was suggested that in July and August CHA will do presentations to the town Boards of Selectmen and Councils on the project.

LEGAL REVIEW COSTS:

John mentioned that Mark Branse indicated that a nominal cost will be involved with the review and preparation of the final Corridor regulations. An amount of \$1,200.00 seemed the approximate cost. Elements of low impact design, and flexible/rational parking standards modeled after the Northwest CT parking demand analysis.

Mark has reviewed the RTE 44 Bolton Corridor regulations which will likely be used as a template for the REDC work.

A discussion occurred about the Statutory provision involving a town adopting a road layout map to help define future road connections and could be relevant to the REDC work. John will ask Mark about this issue.

NEXT STEPS:

A discussion occurred regarding potential funding mechanisms and projects that would be worthy of pursuing. For example, the gateway signage is a possibility. A retail leakage study could be pursued as well, which was recommended in the economic development report prepared by Mark Waterhouse. Eric will share the ESRI leakage and demographic study that was done in 2010 in Coventry.

The issue of EDA funding through the establishment of Economic Development Districts was also discussed. Legislative assistance will be required to accommodate the unique situation of the REDC.

It was noted that the RTE 316 bridge has been installed, but some trail work needs to occur by DEEP to help shape it to the bridge. A dedication ceremony is to occur on May 12.

Page 3

RTE 6 REDC Minutes

April 23, 2012

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is when CHA will return, which will be on May 7.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric M. Trott

Secretary