

Town of Milton

424 White Mtn Highway
Milton NH, 03851



Economic Development

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Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2019

Committee Members Present

- Dennis Woods, Sandi Woods, Les Elder, Chris Penta, Peg Hurd, Erin Hutchings, Bob Bourdeau, Kathy Russ

Committee Members not in attendance

- Billy Walden, Bruce Woodruff

Others Present

- Jerry Bowman (New England Cremation Supply), Bob Frizzell (Frizzell Construction), Jennifer Marsh (Rochester Economic Development)

Opening

- Meeting came to order at 6:00. Sandi Woods – Minutes recorder

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Mr Bowman and Mr Frizzell visited the MEDC meeting to update the committee on the plans for New England Cremation Supply (NECS) to relocate from it's present location in Rochester, to a new facility (to be built) on a lot currently owned by Mr. Frizzell on the south side of Rt. 75 in Milton. The 8000 sqft building will be the new home of NECS, housing their corporate offices and production area. NECS currently has 12 employees, with plans to hire additional staff concurrent with this move. Plans for the new facility are being prepared, and will be presented to the town of Milton for approvals.
- Jennifer Marsh, a Milton resident, is a member of the Rochester Economic Development team, and was interested in what the MEDC does here in Milton. She provided an experienced view on several issues that were discussed during the evening. Jennifer expressed an interest in joining the MEDC, but needs to verify that there wouldn't be any issues with the city of Rochester before joining officially.

New Business

- Chris Penta announced plans for a joint grand opening of both Binker Brothers Antiques, and Ira Miller General Store, in Milton Mills. The tentative date is June 22nd, concurrent with the first Milton Mills Market to be held at Waumbeck Park in Milton Mills.

- The possibility that Milton could become a member of a local Chamber of Commerce was discussed. The general consensus was that it would add value to Milton spreading our development messages, and to provide cooperation with surrounding towns. Les Elder took the lead to determine the chance and identify a plan.

Old Business

- Bob Bourdeau met with the management of Index Packaging, and can now confirm that despite all of the possibilities mentioned at prior meetings, all expansion plans into a new facility here in Milton have been scrapped. Issues at the previously planned Rochester location have been corrected, and Index will be completing their new facility in Rochester by year's end.
- Kathy Russ has re-ignited the UNH Business Retention Study, and has begun the process of interviewing active Milton businesses. Kathy will provide a proposed list of businesses to the team for review, and we will then divide the list among contributing members to complete the interview process.
- The new Milton Business Directory has been completed, and is available through a link on the MEDC Facebook page. Next step will be to replace the current outdated local business list on the town of Milton website, with an active link to this directory. The directory will be maintained by MEDC, and will provide everyone in the town with a much more accurate account of local business services availability.

Closing Public Comment

- n/a

Closing Member Comment

- None.

Adjournment

- Sandi Woods motioned for adjournment, Dennis Woods seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:45.