

MILFORD INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014
4:00 P.M., Room 14, Milford Town Hall

Members Present: Joseph Boczanowski, Courtney Derderian, Larry Dunkin (Chair), Bradlee Farrin, Daniel Gregory, Michael Meurant, Robert Mitchell, Tony Pinto, Peter Scandone, Joseph Soares.

Members Absent: Scott Kaplan.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 P.M.

Minutes of previous meeting: The Chairman received unanimous consent to accept the minutes of the 2-20-14 IDC meeting as written.

Update – Uses in BP Business Park Zone: The Chairman noted that the Planning Board had received the remand from the Selectmen for the zoning articles on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant in May. One of the amendments is the expansion of uses allowed in the Business Park and Industrial zoning districts. The uses of scientific research and development as well as life sciences research and development uses would be allowed if the article passes.

Middle School East – Future Reuse for QCC Satellite Campus: Now that the Woodland School project is progressing, the Chairman suggest the IDC support the consideration of reuse of the Middle School East building as a possible satellite campus for QCC, or some other community college. A concern of QCC four years ago regarding Milford as a possible location for a satellite campus being considered at that time was the lack of available buildings in town. After a brief discussion, the consensus was for the Chairman to prepare a memo to the Selectmen making such a recommendation. The members will review a draft of the memo at the next meeting.

The members also discussed how to encourage redevelopment along Main Street, specifically between downtown and the hospital. The Chairman reminded the members that the Planning Board had previously discussed establishing the relatively new OR Office Residential district in portions of this area. After a brief discussion, Motion by Pinto, Second by Gregory, to begin crafting a memo to the Planning Board supporting the application of the OR zone on portions of Main Street between downtown and the hospital, with a draft of the memo to be available at the next meeting. Motion Carried unanimously.

Continued Discussion – Future of the IDC: The Commission members welcomed Selectman Chairman William Buckley to the meeting, and continued discussing the current status and possible future directions for the IDC. Materials were again in the agenda packet for this item, which included the updated memo to the Town Administrator, a copy of Article 6 of the Town's General Bylaws establishing the IDC, a copy of the enabling legislation MGL Ch. 40 Sec. 8A, a copy of MGL Ch. 41 Sec. 1 dealing with vacancies, and a copy of Town Counsel's letters to the Town Planner clarifying that there are no residency requirements for IDC membership and that Article 6 is broad enough to include an economic development focus.

Selectman Buckley encouraged the members to expand IDC's focus to include more of an economic development function, but funding to do so would need to be on a project specific basis and not institutionalized into a budget line item. The Commission members had also discussed seeking consultant funding to update the 1995 Economic Development Strategy.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 P.M.