

TOWN OF CONCORD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN HEARING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 8:00AM in the Selectmen's Room.

Present were Virginia McIntyre, Chair; Margaret B. Briggs; Gregory P. Howes; and Philip Benincasa, Clerk. Also present was Christopher Whelan, Town Manager.

In attendance were in excess of twenty five interested citizens (see sign in sheet).

Topics discussed were:

1. What would be the work of said committee?
 - a. support integrated planning
 - b. provide advice to the Board of Selectmen
 - c. expansion of business
 - d. support issues of change/growth in moving through town bureaucracy
 - e. maintain records of available commercial space
 - f. potentially reach out to business searching for new headquarters
 - g. vehicle for fostering communications
 - h. etc.

2. Where have we failed?
 - a. impact of sewage treatment
 - b. the rotary
 - c. sense that town is not "business friendly"
 - d. burdensome bylaws
 - e. etc.

3. What we do well
 - a. flat tax rate
 - b. cheap power
 - c. location of Route 2 is both a plus and minus
 - d. proposed village overlay is sound and powerful concept
 - e. etc

4. Questions
 - a. What about out of representation for out of town business owners?
 - b. What is our vision for business in the town?
 - c. Under what "umbrella" should the committee fall? (Planning Board is over taxed)?
 - d. To do this properly will we need more professional staff?
 - e. Would there be wisdom in starting with a small charge and growing it as the need shows itself?
 - f. Does the name "economic development" set the proper tone?
 - g. Etc.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM with the understanding that a draft charge for the committee would be forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted

Philip Benincasa
Clerk, Concord Board of Selectmen