



**EDIC Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 6:30pm
CATA Conference Room, First Floor
3 Pond Road, Gloucester, Ma 01930**

**Board Members in Attendance: B. Bernie (Chair), B. Pett, R. Pino, R. Ross, B. Bramhall, M DiLascio .
Also in attendance was T. Gillett (Director)**

Introduction:

- **Call to order of the Board**
- **Attendance Taken**
- **Past meeting minutes from May, 30th and Sept 25th were approved with the changes made by B. Bramhall. The same changes were made on the Clerk Certificate. The Clerk will submit a revised copy of the Certificate to the Clerk's Office.**

For Discussion:

Topic #1" Request from the City for the EDIC to participate in an Economic Study Plan.

- **Jill Cahill, the new Director for Community Development, and Tom Chamurra (formerly with UMASS Amherst) contacted T. Gillett.**
- **T. Gillett will be meeting with Jill Cahill and her staff**
- **Ruth Pino stated that she wants to know more about the specifics around what questions to ask this group that promoted their request from the EDIC.**
- **Mike Dilascio questioned if there was more to this request than a slot analysis.**
- **Mr. Gillett expressed that we needed a better plan and he felt it was not the right time for Community Development to come in front of the EDIC Board and ask for money.**
- **R. Pino stated that the city has so much potential and that we should be looking into what can be happening versus what is not happening. Why not spend the money on a study that could outline what our city's potential is?**
- **Mr. Petty stated that we have continuously asked about other studies that could be done in regards to the Magnolia Industrial Park which have apparently fallen by the wayside.**
- **Tom Gillette commented that he would like to change the study in progress. The proposal of the study should be on the impact of the environment. This is what should be addressed immediately.**
- **B. Bramhall commented that the question at present is land buildable? Can that plot of land sustain an industrial park and not have any impact on the environment?**

- Mr. Pett asked the question of did the original plan include any commentary on the environment impact of the project? Tom Gillette confirmed that there was one small paragraph that included the environment. However, the topic was not covered in depth.
- At this time, the Board feels reluctant to contribute any money towards this study.
- T. Gillette will try to get some numbers together about the 430 acres in Magnolia of what an environmental study would cost.
- R Pino: Another part of the puzzle is how far on the list of possibilities of state funding for an interchange? Community Development wants money. However, we need to know the goal and what their intensions are. We do not need another slot study.
- M Dilascio made a point that there we have some new representation within the incoming City Council. We need to start informing the Councilors because a good number of them are unaware.
- R. Pino expressed that the Board needs to supply a document to the Mayor outlining the study so she can then pass along the information to the City Council. T. Gillett will draft the document so the EDIC can then approve it and then forward it to the Mayor. Also, Ruth made a point that J. Cahill from Community Development should be invited to all future EDIC meetings. Jill can then present this information to the Council through the Mayor's office.
- The next project discussed was: CI Works Gloucester
- CI Works creates energetic environments in selected locations. CI Works provides an affordable work space with flexible commercial lease terms and scale up manufacturing facilities to small companies. CI works creates work environments in select locations. This would be ideal for any manufacturing company in Gloucester to grow and scale up.
- The property in question is the Gloucester Engineering site. It is 163,000 square feet total with 46,000 square feet that can be used as office space.
- EDIC is applying for a \$100,000 grant from the Commonwealth that would kick start this project. The grant would cover any reconfiguring of space and any renovations. The grant is from Economic Development Group.
- Mr. Gillete asked the Board if they would be interested in funding \$25,000. This would be a fund created by the EDIC that would assist these small business get started. EDIC could contribute to a small company's first and last month rental deposit.
- B.Pett expressed the idea is wonderful. However, we need to drill down and develop guidelines of how to move forward.
- M. DiLascio asked if legally the EDIC could administer this type of fund. The Board's answer was "yes" the EDIC could.
- Tom Gillett mentioned that by the EDIC participating in this contribution would set us apart from other applicants.
- The \$25,000 would be contingent on winning the grant. Every applicant on use of funds would need to be approved by the Board.
- Grant time frame: Award date is early January. Project target date is March in time for the Seafood Show.

- Rules will need to be established by the Board regarding eligibility. B. Pett stated that the Board whole heartedly supports the endeavor tied into the grant. The details on the administration will follow.
- The EDIC Chair called a motion to approve the commitment of \$25,000 pending grant approval and establishing rules and regulations around “The Local Leverage Fund”
- Roll call was taken. The Board unanimously voted for the motion to approve the commitment.
- Roll Call: Bramhall (yes), Bernie (yes), DiLascio (yes), Pino (yes), Pett (yes), Ross (yes)
- Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm