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Town of Stafford Special Meeting – Joint Meeting

Board of Selectmen Planning & Zoning Commission Economic Development Commission

Warren Memorial Town Hall | Veteran's Meeting Room Tuesday, June 19, 2018 Immediately following the 7:00PM Board of Selectmen Meeting

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- 1. Report on the Planning and Zoning Subcommittee by Nancy Ravetto
- 2. Marketing Plan prepared and presented by Amber Wakley
- 3. Strategies for Common Development Group Discussion
- 4. Adjournment

Planning & Zoning Commission Chair, Nancy Ravetto, called the meeting to order at 8:16 pm

2. Report on the Planning and Zoning Subcommittee by Nancy Ravetto

Nancy Ravetto reported on goals, purpose, and progress of the newly formed Planning Subcommittee, which met for the first time on May 2, 2018. The subcommittee is currently focused on the pursuit of establishing potential sites for a business park. The group is actively researching land possibilities, determining restrictions/allowances of sewer system/utilities and capacities of the Water Pollution Control Facility. The goal of establishing a business park is to raise the Median Household Income by providing living wage jobs while increasing the grand list.

3. Marketing Plan

To encourage the promotion and positive development of business in Stafford, Amber Wakley created a marketing package that serves as an introduction to new/prospective businesses/developers. The "welcome mat" business guide included items such as:

- a. A community profile: demographics, economics, elected officials, labor force, town hall contacts, building & zoning info, online permit information, downloadable forms, permit process info, town services, zoning map and goals for development.
- b. Emphasized within the packet was information regarding business zones, differentiating types and levels of commercial development within town.

Previously emailed with hard copy proofs at the meeting, the goal was to offer feedback and edits for the marketing piece. The fluid document was presented with the hope to evolve content with the input of others and their area of expertise. Suggestions included inclusion of updated photographs, emphasis on worldwide manufacturing facilities and an expanded community profile, along with general grammar suggestions.

4. Strategies for Common Development

The group discussed positive development in Stafford – whether to be developers or new residents – and opportunities to perpetuate current momentum. Nancy Ravetto and Gene Julian discussed how PZ has been working to streamline the permit process, like with the introduction of pre-planning meetings where prospective builders can preemptively meet with

PZ to cooperatively review plans. Additionally, Amber Wakley discussed wanting to create a tourism-type website, that would promote local business, town events and Stafford's natural resources – she will follow up with EDC at their next meeting.

Another topic of discussion was to not only attract new businesses, but to support those already existing in Stafford. The group discussed the return of after-hours business events and continued networking opportunities.

5. Adjournment the June 19, 2018, joint BOS/PZ/EDC meeting was adjourned at 9:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Imber & Wakley

Amber Wakley