

**ASHBURNHAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

§§§

**25 July 2017 - 6:30pm
Ashburnham Public Safety Building - Training Room
Presentation by MRPC - Karen Chapman, Principal Planner**

§§§

PRESENT: AEDC - Bill Johnson, Chair, Rosemarie Meissner, Vice-Chair, Jaclyn Wooding, Secretary, Deb Gardner, John Enright, Leo Janssens II, BOS, Richie Wright, Planning Board, Chris McNabb, Christina Sargent (Missing: Ron Putnam)

PLANNING BOARD - Bill Nolan, Roger Hoyt

BOS - Kyle Johnson, John Mulhall

TA - Heather Budrewicz

Others - Kelly Hansen, resident, Jerilyn Losordo, resident, Amanda Burk, Sentinel & Enterprise

Bill Johnson opened the meeting, welcomes Karen Chapman of MRPC

1. What is a Master Plan?
2. Why do we need a Master Plan?
3. Purpose of the Economic Development Chapter
4. Elements of the chapter
5. Assessment of Current Economic Base
 1. Ashburnham's Labor Force - more workers now than 2004/2009
 2. Where residents work - 10% work in town, or companies of neighboring towns
 3. Measures of wealth - poverty level slightly higher than base
 4. Educational Attainment
 5. Jobs in Ashburnham
 6. Commercial/Industrial contribution to the Tax Levy
 7. Home Values/Sales/Foreclosures - foreclosures are high comparatively
 8. Brownfields
 9. Recreation and Tourism Resources
 10. Infrastructure needs - water system shared with Winchendon
 11. Actions Taken to date to facilitate economic development
6. Development Potential of Commercial/Industrial Land
 1. Land Inventory - not a good amount of comm land to develop. No Industrial
 2. Barriers to Development/Redevelopment
7. Questions/Comments

What about renewing? By law needs to be updated every 10 years, just needs review and updated statistics. We can do a chapter a year with DLTA grants.

Is part of the new plan to look at the old plan?

Can we compare a few different towns?

Will review and come back for a 8/22 meeting to go over.

NEXT MEETING -8/22/17, 6:30 - PSB, lower room

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting adjourned 8:08pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jaclyn Wooding, Secretary