

**TOWN OF NEWTON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
November 12, 2013  
MINUTES**

Chairwoman Joice called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Mrs. Millikin called the roll: Mr. Prendergast, Mr. Hayek, Dr. Clark, Mr. Levante and Chairwoman Joice were present.

Chairwoman Joice stated the Open Public Meetings Act had been complied with.

Chairwoman Joice asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2013 meeting by Mr. Prendergast and seconded by Dr. Clark. All were in favor. Minutes approved as presented.

**Old Business**

1. RPM Update – Mrs. Millikin advised the Commission that the RPM Project did not receive their funding and will be reapplying next year.
2. McGuire's – Mrs. Millikin advised that the McGuire's parcel along with the post office, 75 & 79 Main Street and the Adams Street Parking lot have been deemed an Area in Need of Redevelopment. Jessica Caldwell, the Town Planner is currently working on the redevelopment plan for this project. Something should be presented to the Planning Board in early Spring. Discussion ensued regarding McGuire's.
3. Marketing Program – Mrs. Millikin advised that the Town of Newton has hired Gina Thomas as the Town's marketing consultant. Mrs. Thomas was present and explained her role with both the school and the Town. Mrs. Thomas explained that she has met with representatives of the Newton School Board, The College and working with merchants on some financing programs. She has received a great deal of positive feedback regarding the Town. The Town is looking at creating a BID/SID and she will be involved when the study is received by the consultants. She also advised that SCCC now has Barnes and Noble and a Starbucks on Campus. She is working to try to have them come to down town. Gina also advised that at the Holiday Parade on November 30<sup>th</sup> there will be various windows on Spring Street utilized for graffiti gratitude.
4. Armory Update – At this time there is a great deal of clean up required on this site. There are no new updates at this time. As more updates are available Mrs. Millikin will advise the Commission.

5. BID Analysis – Mrs. Millikin advised that North Branch Associates should have something to the Town Manager by the end of November for review and then this will most likely be presented to the Town Council in December. When the date has been determined for the presentation Mrs. Millikin will advised the Commission Members.
  
6. Blue Iris Update – Work is progressing on this site and the store will be Sensual Addictions.
  
7. Marketing Event – The event was held on October 7<sup>th</sup> at Andrea’s restaurant and was a great success. Mrs. Thomas also advised she would be following up with some of the businesses that did not come to the event. She also advised that her and Lisa Fairclough were meeting with Mr. Jain on Wednesday regarding his property on Spring Street.

The Commission thanked Mrs. Thomas for attending the meeting. There being no other business to discuss Dr. Clark made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Prendergast. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Millikin  
Deputy Town Manager