

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES**

**February 23, 2011**

**Present:** Bill Plasko, Chairman, Jack Moynihan, Michael Gallerani, Tom Wynne, Scott Murphy, Steve P Costello, Steve Costello, Town Planner

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made and seconded to approve the minutes of December 8, 2010.

**Vote Unanimous**

**Norwood on Film Project**

**Present:** Jonathan Cardoni, Project Director and Dan Busler

Mr. Cardoni gave an overview on the “Norwood on Film” project and a demo on the website. Mr. Cardoni would like to add more to the website on required permitting (i.e. police details, fire department, street closings). Mr. Cardoni said that he spoke to Jeff McClain, from New England Locations, who found the site for “TED”. Suggestions from Mr. McClain included anything that would expedite the process of coming to Norwood.

Mr. Cardoni stated that the highlight of the website is the photo gallery which identifies locations in Norwood. Mr. Cardoni is looking to place “Norwood on Film” on the Mass Film Bureau website and this will help Norwood be known to film location “scouts”.

Mr. Gallerani asked about the downtown pictures, Norwood is a quintessential 70’s downtown.

Mr. Costello, Town Planner, asked where the Norwood on Film link should be. Mr. Gallerani feels Norwood on Film should be linked to the Town’s Economic Development website. Mr. Wynne would like Mr. Costello, Town Planner, to be the point man for the Town.

Mr. Steve P. Costello cited that linking with the Mass Film Bureau would help to overcome any objections to linking to the Town’s website.

Mr. Cardoni said that a few towns have linked to the Mass Film Bureau (Quincy, New Bedford, Merrimack Valley, Falmouth, Dennis, Boston and the Berkshires).

Mr. Steve P. Costello mentioned the need to show more information on the location of Norwood. (i. e miles to Boston, Providence etc). Mr. Cardoni said they wanted to keep the focus on Norwood but they will put in more information on the location of Norwood.

Mr. Costello asked if this should be presented to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Plasko suggested they request an appointment to meet with the Board of Selectmen for a presentation on the “Norwood on Film” project.

Mr. Cardoni said that an important point is that when the ‘TED’ movie came to Town, that film scout knew about Norwood from another film. We want all film scouts to know about Norwood and its resources. The Economic Development Committee’s mission is to capture this new business.

Mr. Cardoni needs to be in charge of vetting who gets listed as a service or vendor (i.e. catering, restaurants, etc). Mr. Busler doesn’t think the vendor list (i.e. caterer) should be too large.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Stephen P. Costello to request an appointment with the Board of Selectmen for the “Norwood on Film” project seconded by Mr. Wynne and amended by Mr. Gallerani to have Mr. Costello, Town Planner, as the contact person for the “Norwood on Film” project

**Vote Unanimous**

### **Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce**

**Present:** Tom O’Rourke, Exec Dir.

**SEED Entrepreneurial Workshop.** Mr. Costello stated that he wanted to update the Committee on this matter and ask for financial assistance for an Entrepreneurial Workshop he wants to put together with SEED (South Eastern Economic Development) and the Chamber.

Mr. O’Rourke stated that this would be an all day workshop where SEED would bring in the speakers and NVCC would market it to get people to attend. They are also looking for sponsors to help support the program. Mr. O’Rourke stated that he has had an initial discussion with Norwood Bank and there was some interest.

Mr. Stephen P. Costello gave brief overview of the SPA Programs. SEED loans typically are subordinate to a larger bank loan and helps hedge the risk.

The Economic Development Committee discussed how to advertise the SEED workshop (i.e. publicity).

**Motion** made by Mr. Gallerani to support the Entrepreneurial Workshop with no financial commitment at this time, seconded by Mr. Moynihan

**Vote Unanimous**

**Chamber's New Website Based on Coupon Program.** Mr. O'Rourke talked about the software coupon program that the Chamber is installing. It will allow for their members to offer discount coupons on line to other members and the general public. It should be up and running in a couple of months. Another concept that is being explored is the "Try is Local" program.

### **Update on Tax Increment Financing Program**

Mr. Costello updated the Board on TIF decertifications and the status of the active TIF's. Mr. Costello sent letters to the companies that are receiving tax relief asking them to start listing the local tax relief they are receiving on the EDIP Annual Report.

Mr. Costello said the FM Global would like to meet with the Committee in March. Mr. Costello talked about the decertification of Instron Corporation and LTX Corporation. He also talked about Absolute Metal Finishing trying to convince the State that they are exporting close to 25% of their products and deserve a State tax credit. The EACC will meet with AMF on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion ensued.

**The Economic Development Committee adjourned.**