

Belmont Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for 11/17/11

Attendees: Lalg Musserian, Angelo Firenze, Edmund Starzec, Erik Rhodin, Anthony Leccese, Jay Szklut, Andres Rojas, Tommasina Olsen

Absent: Steve Savarese

Special Guests: Sami Baghdady, Chair, Belmont Planning Board
Chris Starr, Lenord Cubellis and Bob Shortsleeve (Cushing Village development presenters)

Minutes

- Meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Lalg Musserian.
- Chris Starr gave background on his family's association and 4 generations of history with Belmont and the Cushing Square land he owned and his objective of providing a "village like" experience for people who will live or shop in the area.
- Chris Starr gave a presentation on the development plans for Cushing Village, including various visual aids to show what the 3 sites which make up Cushing Village would look like after development is completed.
- Chris also discussed how his development plan is very mindful of the residents, the Town of Belmont's character and the emphasis on materials and product offerings to embrace the idea of a village from a past era.
- Each building will have a distinct name and character, and Chris gave background of the naming convention of each building and reasons behind it. He also mentioned that he will commission local artists for one of the building which is called the Pomona, named after the Goddess of fruitful abundance and nature.
- Chris and his team will be presenting the plans to the Belmont Planning Board as a next step, including car and bicycle parking space summaries.

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- Lenord Cubellis and Bob Shortsleeve also gave brief presentations on some of the physical and financial aspects of the development, including the estimated *new* tax revenue and fees and *net* tax revenue to the Town of Belmont, and the creation of 250 construction jobs for approximately 1.5 years.
- The EDAC committee briefly discussed some of the specific items on the EDAC Charter, particularly items # 4 and 5 on the Mandate, and agreed that further discussions were needed at the next meeting, which Lalg will schedule.
- Ed agreed to research the process for development on State owned land, particularly the site of the old MDC Skating Rink. He will report back at the Dec. 1 meeting.
- Additional names were given to Angelo for follow up for individuals who might be good candidates for EDAC membership, as the EDAC Committee would like to add 2 more members to bring the number of voting members to 9 as envisioned by the Board of Selectmen.

Next Steps:

- 3 Ed Starzec to research process on development on State owned land and report back to EDAC on 12/1/11
- 3 Angelo to call additional potential EDAC members and present updates at 12/1/11 meeting
- 3 EDAC members to discuss EDAC Mandate and Charter from Board of Selectmen, particularly around Items 4 and 5

Meeting Adjourned at 9:32 AM

Next Meeting: December 15 @ 8:00 am
Room 1, Belmont Town Hall

All meeting materials are on file at the Office of Planning and Economic Development in the Town Hall

Minutes prepared by Lalg Musserian