



# Town of Ashland, Massachusetts

Office of Economic Development

(508) 881-0100 Ext 7905

Economic Development Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2019

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room

Town Hall, 101 Main St, Ashland, MA 01721

Opened meeting at 10:00am.

**Attendance:** Pam Bathen, Dennis Ahern, Alan Macintosh (Absent: Julia Chase, Garrett Quinn)

**Corner Spot Update:** Beth Reynolds updated group on the calendar for The Corner Spot season. Talked about new businesses utilizing the shed and events that have been successful. Expressed that the committee is always looking for new businesses to pop up.

**Business Incentive Program Update:** Beth Reynolds gave an update of where the program is today. Rules and Regulations were approved by Select Board and the program has officially been launched. Several businesses have expressed interest in the program and there are 2 to review at this meeting. The tool has been beneficial to attract two new restaurants to town which will hopefully be closing on lease/sale agreements with building owners next month.

### **Business Incentive Program Review of Applications:**

- Wine Empire: Sign and Façade improvement application in the amount of \$1,670 half the cost \$3,340.00 new sign at plaza on West Union Street. D. Ahern made motion to recommend application, P. Bathen seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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- Dulce d Leche: Amenities Financing application in the amount of \$40,000 for \$20,000 rental assistance and \$20,000 in new equipment cost. D. Ahern made motion to recommend application, P. Bathen seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**New business updates:** Beth Reynolds updated group regarding two new restaurants that are looking to move to Ashland. Locations at 310 Pond Street and West Union Street. She is actively working with them in their next steps. Group discussed town meeting vote for local meals tax shift, currently waiting for State legislature review. Update from B. Reynolds regarding status of Old Fusion Property on Rt 126. Developer is working with planning board, no official plans have been submitted, and next step is for developer to meet with design review. She has been working with potential developer to find commercial leasee that is aligned with the 126 revitalization plan.

**Individual group member updates:** Alan Macintosh said business was good for Noodle City and that he launched Little Mama's Asian Street Food this summer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Reynolds  
Economic Development Director  
Town of Ashland

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