Town of Ayer

Office of Community & Economic Development

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Board of Selectmen Monthly Report September 2015

Meetings attended: MEDC Treasurer Activities in Worcester/ MPO & MRPC, Fitchburg/ Ayer Board of Selectmen/ Ayer Mapping meeting to discuss GIS information of Town/HUD Grant Meeting in Boston

Important PR and Financial Meeting with Representatives of North Middlesex Bank related to the IDFA Meeting with Movie Producer who is planning on filming a short documentary here in Ayer Continued Participation in the Comprehensive Plan pre and full committee meetings Met with and assisted with Vitasoy's activities for workforce expansion which included drafting a press release to the Action Unlimited publication

Main Street Activities ongoing: Maintaining flowers and changing seasonal banners

The new restaurant directional signs and location pole for Rail Trail tourist's info are completed and project will be completed in the coming week

Continue to support Shop N' Save opening activities

Current business activities taking place throughout Town

Rotary Area: A local Ayer company is interested in "adopting" the final island which is located in front of Wendy's

Downtown Area: Completion of the refurbishing for all the Town benches in coordination with Shriver Job Corps Paint and Carpentry trade departments. The completed benches look excellent and many were improved with new planking and hardware/ Communications and reply from MBTA about repair of fence and possible viewing area at the Downtown Sitting Shelter area (former subway location)

West Main:

Devens Shopping Center continues to be listed by owner. Have asked current owner to keep me informed of new owner when sale takes place.

Park Street/Fitchburg Rd: National Grid activity is nearly complete/Completed Historic forms for four properties that are proposed to be purchased by MART/MRPC for the Rail Trail project

Additional: Meetings with possible new businesses to Ayer: new taco restaurant in former eye glasses location and new massage spa locating in the former Woody's Barber shop location. Woody's Barber shop relocated to Park Street due to better client conditions

Additional Projects/Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1) Coordinating with Ayer Historic the Preservation Agreement for the Pleasant Street School (on-going)
- 2) Continual administrative involvement with the upcoming Comprehensive Plan 2015 (to date)
- 3) Locating new restaurant directions banners at the entrance to the Rail Trail
- 4) Downtown commuter safety / tourist project report: a train enthusiast watching and photo area around the current brick sitting area building. There has been a response from MBTA and to date the fence has been repaired closing off the improper/unsanctioned access to the commuter rail station
- 5) Shop & Save "soft" opening that will take place Oct.15 Grand opening weekend of Oct. 30-31
- 6) Family Dollar slated to complete all of its infrastructure hookups preceding grand opening within the next couple of weeks
- 7) Activities continue to secure a Rehab Specialist and an Environmental company for preparation of RFP's for upcoming services as well as possible oversight consulting companies

David Maher Director, Community and Economic Development Town of Ayer