Resolution to Create an Economic Development Committee

Whereas, in accordance with the authority granted to it by the Town Charter, the Selectboard may create special purpose committees; and,

Whereas, the 2013 Great Barrington Master Plan approved by the Planning Board and Selectboard recommended the creation of Economic Development Committee;

Now therefore, on this _10th_ day of __June__, 2019, the Selectboard hereby resolves and creates an Economic Development Committee, as set forth below.

Charge of Duties:

Advise the Selectboard, Planning Board, Town Manager and other boards and committees on economic development issues and trends.

Track, analyze, and understand our Town’s changing economy and business needs.

Develop guidelines and recommendations, and support public and private initiatives, related to business retention, business attraction, business development, workforce development, entrepreneurship, infrastructure to support economic growth, and redevelopment of sites and buildings.

Analyze barriers to economic development, and develop draft bylaws, policies, regulations, and zoning regulations to address those barriers, to foster economic growth, and strengthen the local economy consistent with the goals of the Master Plan.

Develop recommendations to maximize business interest in our community, to support existing businesses, and to attract potential new businesses.

Undertake and support activities aimed at enhancing the economic well-being of the community by the promotion of a sustainable economy which will retain and create quality employment opportunities and a broadened tax base for the town and its residents.
Actively and regularly consult with existing small and large businesses in Town, with the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, and with the Downtown Great Barrington Cultural District.

Work with other public and private entities, and staff to promote the economic well-being of the community and participate in regional economic development efforts.

Promote Great Barrington’s identity in the region.

Membership and Terms of Office:

The Committee shall have 13 members, unless expanded by vote of the Selectboard. The initial members shall represent the following areas/organizations, and need not be residents of the Town of Great Barrington.

1. Selectboard
2. Planning Board
3. Finance Committee
4. Entrepreneurship Expert
5. Commercial Real Estate Expert
6. Local K-12 Educational Institution
7. Local Higher Education Institution
8. Local Arts and Cultural Organization
9. Member at Large 1
10. Member at Large 2
11. Member at Large 3
12. Member at Large 4
13. Member at Large 5

All members shall have three-year terms, except: the initial appointments of Members 6 - 9 above shall be for two-year terms, and thereafter for three-year terms; the initial appointments of Members 10 – 13 above shall be for one-year terms, and thereafter for three-year terms.

The Selectboard, Planning Board, and Finance Committee may have an Alternate Member, also appointed by the Selectboard, to represent them on the Committee.

The Town Manager shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member, and may designate staff as appropriate to assist the Economic Development Committee.

For the Selectboard:

[Signature]

Stephen Bannon, Chair