

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Thursday April 3, 2014 8:00-9:00 am
Wilmington Town Offices

Attendance: Ryan Holton, Ken Black, Heidi Taylor, Randy Terk, Jim Burke, Jake White, Laurie Newton, Carlo Pilgrim and Gretchen Havreduk

No minutes to approve

New members introduced: We welcomed Jim Burke (Wilmington Select board Representative), Heidi Taylor (Deerfield Valley Rescue Representative), and Carlo Pilgrim (Dover Town Administrator).

Trail Update

Gretchen presented the draft map for the kiosk. Jeff Nugent from Windham Regional Commission (designer of the map) recommended that we laminate the maps; however use a lesser grade material, as there may need to be changes within the first year. Randy suggested that we have a suggestion box at each kiosk where people can comment on the maps. Once completed Heidi noted that we need to give copies to fire, rescue and police departments. Ken is working on pricing for the maps for distribution.

Plans for 2014 Grand Opening- Changed the date from Memorial Day weekend to Saturday, June 7th at 10 am at the entrance to Haystack. We are coordinating the event with National Trails Day and be posted on the American Hiking Association website. We are planning a small simple gathering with some speakers (SeVEDS, politicians, and select board members). We will have a ribbon cutting and guided tours will be provided after the ceremony. A large banner, water bottles and/or stickers will be given out. Gretchen is contacting Jerry Goldberg to ask the cost of promoting this event for us.

Progress in sure packing trails...Jake will check with John Gannon regarding the progress. John Gannon is working on seeking an opinion of how the trail can be sure packed with a portion of the trail being owned by property that has an Act 250 permit.

Workforce Training Committee Update:

Bobby Edwards a few years back instructed a workshop aligning with liquor licensing; he may be someone to contact regarding training. The Chamber also managed a similar program on employee training. Randy Terk suggested that we need to get buy-in from Mount Snow and Haystack. Other suggestions included incentivizing business owners and their employees to attend, through actual pay and gift certificates to local

establishments. This would also encourage buying local and engaging community to patronize local businesses. We need to engage business owners first by just asking if they would be interested in a training program. Volunteers for the committee are: a representative from Mount Snow, the Chamber, Heidi Taylor and Carlo Pilgrim.

Updates:

Wilmington: Selectboard approved through 1% Option tax funding Barrels & Banners on Route 100. Zoar Outdoor will be coming early summer and located on West Main St. Hired an interim Zoning Administrator, Diane Chapman for two days a week.

Dover: Selectboard approved two events Mothers and Daughters motor cycle ride and the Wine & Harvest Festival at Mount Snow. Created a marketing campaign of large posters that will be interchanged for the seasons to be displayed at Guilford Welcome Center for one year. FairPoint increased DSL on Route 100 in a 2 mile radius near Chadwicks. AT & T upgraded their cell service coverage on the tower on Mount Snow and the one on Dover Hill by the school.

Need additional Wilmington and Dover Representatives

Wilmington is covered with representatives. Dover will reach out for a public representative

Other Business:

EDA- The new Southern Vermont Branding is being announced today at the Vermont update-

Next meeting is Thursday, May 1st 8 am

Jim moved to close the meeting 2nd by Heidi at 8:49am

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen M. Havreluk