

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Thursday June 5, 2014 8:00-9:00 am
Wilmington Town Offices

Attendance: Ryan Holton, Ken Black, Heidi Taylor, Jim Burke, Carlo Pilgrim, Laura Sibilia, Meg Streeter, Jake White, Gretchen Havreluk, Scott Murphy

Trail Update

Trail Maps and the large kiosk maps are being distributed and hung up.

Plans for 2014 Grand Opening- Gretchen went over the proposed agenda and other details for the event. We discussed having cars for transportation from the Chimney Hill area back to Haystack. Dover is a shorter distance (approx. one hour); therefore hikers can just walk back to their cars.

The Kiosks are all installed in Wilmington and two in Dover. The one at Handle Road will hopefully be in for the grand opening.

Sure-Pack- Last night the Wilmington Select Board gave approval to move forward in hiring Attorney Timothy M. Eustace of Burlington who has expertise in Act 250 issues for two purposes: 1. Write a jurisdictional determination letter to Act 250 on behalf of the Town regarding the Sure-Pack of the Valley Trail to determine if we can proceed without Act 250 intervention on the areas that do not intersect an existing Act 250 permittee. 2. To see if we can get a Minor Amendment attached to the Hermitage Act 250 permit to work on trails that intersect Hermitage land. They also approved hiring a trail engineer to design the work that needs to be done to Sure-Pack the trails. The Wilmington Fund VT has agreed to fund the project with a cap of \$200k.

Jake White asked about mowing for the grassy areas of the trail and who will be responsible for the on-going maintenance. The Hermitage is responsible for their portion; as well as their leased property. This needs to be considered in the future.

Workforce Committee Update

The committee met and is funneling through ideas to create a plan for presentation to the Bi-Town Board. The next Workforce Committee meeting is June 18th and Andy Robinson, Director of Workforce Development at the BDCC will be invited to this meeting.

CEDS Project – Updates and new submissions

Laura Sibilia reported they are seeking new projects and would encourage Wilmington and Dover businesses and municipalities to submit. They are also requesting for updates on previous submitted projects. The process will be happening over the summer. All projects will again be ranked.

The Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development are still working out the final details of the VY \$10 Million; known as the Windham County Economic Development Program. At the moment part of the eligibility criteria includes proposals need to be part of the CEDS.

Front Porch Forum

Gretchen will check if there are custom settings for recipients to only get a particular message without the messages of businesses selling things.

A Bi-Town Facebook page was also suggested. We just need someone to manage it.

Updates:

Wilmington- Sure-packing of the Valley Trail is moving forward, upgrade to Route 9 West kiosk, TV boys baseball won Marble Valley League for the first time since 2006!

Dover- applied for 2 Bike-Ped grants through VTrans of a scoping study and the other for implementation, Four summer concert series at the Dover Park on Sunday afternoons from 1-3, Tough Mudder numbers were good...area businesses were pleased with the turn out. Wilmington benefited; as well as Brattleboro and Bennington.

Chamber- The consultants for the Cohesive Marketing & Branding Plan started their work here this week with several small group discussions and a community meeting. They also received a tour of the valley.

Heidi Taylor made the motion to accept the minutes of May 1, 2014 and Ken Black seconded no changes. Passed.

Next meeting will be on July 10th due to the holiday and we will meet at the Dover Town Offices.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen M. Havreduk