

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee

December 6, 2012

Minutes

Present: Charles LaFiura, Ken Black, Ryan Holton, Gretchen Havreduk, Meg Streeter, Scott Murphy, Laura Sibilia, Adam Grinold, Tom Consolino, Dick Deutsch, Nona Monis, Dawn Baxter

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

Review of minutes from November 1, 2012: passed over – add to the agenda for January meeting

Updates on Committee Appointments: No new applicants. Reviewed current openings and who is on roster

Discussion on goals for committee for First Quarter of 2013:

- What Can We Do?
 - Look at projects that are common to both towns and develop strategies for accomplishing
 - Create a list of long and short term projects
 - Choose one goal to be accomplished and lobby ordinance makers (Example: building maintenance standards to enhance the look of the community)
 - Modify charge to reflect what committee wishes to accomplish
 - Survey residents of both communities
 - Utilize Mullin Report to act as “road map” to determine what is needed in both towns

- Who Will Do it?
 - Full-time Bi-Town Planner needed for committee to get behind. This Planner would be responsible for creating a structured “welcome” for prospective businesses to let them know what is available in the area, spearhead projects, ensure that opportunities are not missed, and act as liaison between both town’s select boards and committee (Meg stated that Wilmington would not financially support this position)
 - One or more entities could provide leadership
 - Structured reporting system to the select boards in each direction.

- What do we want to do?
 - Develop valley-wide welcome packet containing all the steps that business-owners must go through to open a new business in the area. Packet to include contact names and phone numbers.
 - Develop trail system between Wilmington and Dover
 - Community Revitalization
 - Create a list of 5 projects from both Mullin and FEMA reports containing clear, specific goals and time frames to recommend that towns develop. Present to Planner to implement
 - Come up with a work plan for the next year

Update on CEDS – Laura Sibilias

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy - makes projects eligible for federal funding
- What does region want to do to grow its economy?
- SEVEDS Website has a lot of information
- Plan to be presented at public meeting in September

- EB5 Offering – Dick Deutsch Mount Snow Update
 - Foreign investor program to raise \$52,000,000
 - Same firm that marketed Jay Peak Project will exclusively market Mount Snow
 - Help to create jobs in Valley
 - Build West Lake and new ski lodge at Carinthia. If successful, will be expanded to create 114 residential units around Carinthia

- USDA Grant Application (Goal 8 of Mullin Report)
 - Provides up to \$10,000 for each community and \$40,000 in matching funds in order to create marketing strategy and rebrand giving entire Valley a common message
 - Deadline to apply is March 1st

- Discussion on Potential Agenda Items for January Meeting
 - Wilmington's Economic Development Goals
 - Dover's Economic Development Goals
 - List of Long Term Projects
 - Update on LT Group's Progress
 - Future meetings will be 1-1.25 hours in duration beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Baxter