

Bi-Town Minutes 12/5/13

Present: Adam Grinold, Ken Black, Meg Streeter, Ryan Holton, Laurie Newton

Minutes of 11/7/2013 approved

Update on Trails

Wilmington

- Waiting on kiosks; when they come in they'll be stored for winter and installed in spring
- Trails are being used

Dover

- Will order kiosks in Feb-Mar
- Working on Part A that will connect Saloon portion to Toll Gate Village (sidewalk)
 - Dependent on easements from landowners

Question on map status – understanding is that Gretchen is working with Jeff on it

Updates

Dover

- Trails and landscaping high priority items in Dover's economic development budget
- Ken looking into Sunday afternoon concerts in park; suggested he work with Wilmington Works to develop synergy between entertainment series they did this past summer

Wilmington

- Potential new business owners in downtown (i.e., at Apres Vous)
- Plan to shift SVEDS, Wilmington Works into 1%
- Memorial Hall situation still not resolved

Bi-Town Letter Asking for Increase in Tourism State Spending

- Wilmington has letter drafted
- Dover suggesting a joint letter from the two towns
- Adam will take final letter to Chamber executives and suggest they send one also

Goals 2014

- Wilmington – Improve trails, “welcome to the valley” packet for new residents and businesses
- Dover – Trails, including marketing them
- Other – Suggested to take another look at Handle Road/Coldbrook Road bike lane and/or “share the road” signs; suggested Matt Mann from Windham Regional come to future meeting and discuss bike lane options

Chair, Organization, Timing & Vacant Seats

- Suggested to “re-organize” in March to time with SB elections
- Adam will remain chair until then
- Community-at-large seats vacant (2 Dover, 1 Wilmington); think about people who may fill these who have different background than those already on board

CEDS

What role can Bi-town play?

- Look at CEDS and align with its strategies; how can it be applied locally?
- One Maryland community developed an app that gave river conditions; resulted in increase in tourism. Use school kids to develop simple app for use on Valley Trail.

Confusion among all entities (Bi-town, WW, etc.)

- Create a graphic to visually explain connection/relationship
- Personalize when speaking with people; i.e., John Doe is the leader of the X Group

Workforce development

- In some communities, manufacturers come into schools to show options for non-college bound students and make the curriculum prepares them for work