

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Wilmington Town Offices
Thursday, June 6, 2019

Attendees: Heidi Taylor, Vickie Capitani, Gretchen Havreluk, Adam Grinold, Eric Durocher, Steve Neratko, and Tom Fitzgerald. In addition: Lauren Harkawik, Scott Tucker (Town Manager), Christy Betit, BDCC alternate.

Meeting called to order: Heidi called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

Minutes: Heidi moved to accept minutes of May 2 as corrected. seconded. All in favor.

Corrections include: 1) Bi-Town Charge: Gretchen and Steve brought the charge to the prospective Select Board's and was approved 2) Housing: Steve reported that the Housing Committee received several RFP's (Request for Proposal) that are currently under review.3) Dover update: Change to Do It Program
Housing: Steve received several Housing Analysis RFP's (Request for Proposal) that and Camoin Associates scored the highest and the least expensive. The Housing Committee has had an initial meeting with them. Stakeholders invited to next meeting

Marketing Committee: Eric D. : marketing up and running, meeting next week to discuss what state funds look like as pertains to our marketing plan, review analytics from the last few weeks, and to discuss display case at the Guilford Welcome Center for July. Gretchen spoke with Wendy Knight, Secretary of Tourism and Marketing and she commented of the high quality of the campaign.

V-Trans Signs: Gretchen related correspondence from V-Trans representative Joe Kelly. A request for additional signage encouraging visitors to reach Dover by Route 9 was denied by V-Trans. Gretchen suggested reaching out to Kelly's supervisor. **Steve** mentioned the use of brown or green signs that have an annual fee. Gretchen to speak with Wendy Knight, Commissioner of Tourism, can she help, possibly through the By-Way Program.

Wilmington: Gretchen: Sidewalk project is happening; must be fully complete by mid-July in time for the block party. DRB for a ramp on the Reardon Bridge, once permitted an RFP will be out for construction. Tom: Hermitage bankruptcy is not going to be pretty for Wilmington and Scott Tucker indicated they are reviewing an action plan.

Dover: Trails Committee has been moving forward. The summer concert series begins at the end of the month with Miles Band on the 26th, Sundays at 2, Wednesdays at 6. Public meetings coming soon. "Do It," façade and exterior improvement for businesses are moving forward. Tax stabilization and grants are moving forward. Vicki: The temporary bridge on Route 100 in Dover is not as bad as predicted as it has 2 way traffic.

BDCC: Adam Grinold Applied for Rural community development initiative, very competitive. Notified by EPA, \$500,000 grant for second phase of Putnam Block in Bennington. We can be a vehicle for businesses we're developing a capacity to help and be a conduit. Introduced Christy Betit who addressed Pathways Program (high school program).

Chamber: Eric noted that the Chamber will have new paint once we have several days of sunshine. Golf Tournament slated for June 24. Fireworks July 5, rain date July 13. Chamber health care in holding pattern, pending legal and legislative action. Our Chamber works with state level chamber. John Gannon succeeded in the passage of a bill to hang banners across state highways and roads. Tom: always important to have those banners announcing local events.

Adam: follow up on legislative piece; having people go up and testify has an impact on outcome of bills. Lobbyists are there all the time but citizen appearances are vital.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 4. Heidi Taylor suggested skipping July. Keep August 1 and hope for a quorum. Committee will meet August 1 at Wilmington Town Office at 8:00 a.m.

Heidi moved to adjourn at 8:43. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Donaghue