

**Bi-Town Economic Development Committee**  
**Thursday November 3, 2016 8:00-9:00 am at Dover Town Offices**

Attendance: Heidi Taylor, Gretchen Havreluk, John Cleanthes, Pat Weisbrich, Kelly Pawlak, Sharon Cunningham, Jake White, Scott Murphy, Brendan McGrail, Randy Terk, and Ken Black

Gretchen will send out the Bi-Town Charge to everyone.

**Meeting called to order at 8:07 am.**

Heidi noted a change in the October minutes. She indicated that there was discussion regarding convening a legislative committee which would be set up after the election. Heidi to create language around this discussion and send to Pat to amend the minutes. Kelly made a motion to approve the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes with the amendment, seconded by Sharon Cunningham. Passed with one abstention.

**BDCC**

Introduce VT. Economy Project Manager- No one from BDCC was in attendance.

**Bi-Town Marketing Plan** No updates

**Valley Trail Update-** Jake reported that he has not heard back from ANR as of yet regarding the wetlands issue. The Wilmington Trails Committee members feels that we need to patient with ANR as it is very close to a decision and hope for a good outcome. Jake put together a timeline from when the project of sur-packing began in May of 2013. Jake will send out the timeline to us.

Gretchen reported that Jeff Nugent from Windham Regional Commission placed pedestrian counters out on 5 trails throughout the valley over the Columbus Day weekend. Once she receives the results from Jeff she will send out to the committee.

**Trail network meeting report-** Twelve people attended the meeting with great interest in improving our trails systems for hiking and biking. General consensus is to continue to meet to: Create an inventory, set priorities, resolve maintenance issues, and should committee create a new non-profit organization or possibly use an existing one.

Elia Hamilton is working on a visioning of a dream network for a continuous trail system. Kelly will send out the minutes of the meeting. The next meeting is Monday Nov 28<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Dover Town offices.

**Telecommunications-** The Town of Dover will be meeting with FairPoint tonight at 6pm at the Dover Town Hall to present their study on providing fiber to the "last mile" in Dover. The cost of the project will be withheld, so an RFP process can be developed in the future for other providers to bid on the work. FairPoint was paid for the study to be completed. During the course of the study the select board and Ken decided to create an RFP process for fairness to the other providers. Most likely the number will be more than funds available and if voters decide to have a bond for the work to be completed.

**Updates:**

**Wilmington-** Select Board is evaluating the 1% Local Option Tax Fund and large capital projects, Completed Wastewater Infrastructure project, Reinstating Façade Improvement grants (Feb 1<sup>st</sup> deadline), expanding the downtown district to the east of town, Look Road Bridge reconstruction, East Main Street RFP for design with 6 bidders responding. Scott reported next summer Route 9 will be repaved from Bennington to the Marlboro town line, they want to place rumble strips and the select board is sending a letter opposing the strips. Heidi reported that the state road conditions were horrible in our first storm last week. It was noted that multiple people including the Moover were off the road and/or stranded. Multiple issues were discussed regarding the road conditions on that day. It was decided to document this experience and send a letter to the District Leader, Rob Faley and cc the commissioner and governor. Scott will draft the letter. Also, discussed multiple problems with storm drain maintenance and repairs.

**Dover-** Officials are coming at 10am today for a final walk through of the new sidewalk, a guard rail has been installed at Mount Snow Marketplace due to 3 accidents occurring there. Ken reported they are still working on the bridge to Toll Gate Village sidewalk project however, Dover was not awarded the grant they applied for, therefore is on hold for now.

**Mount Snow-** The new Grommet Lift (400 ft. carpet lift with a clear dome) for Carinthia is on its way and to be installed within the next few weeks, the weather for Nov 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> may be promising to begin making snow, they have advertised for opening on Thanksgiving day, and EB 5 funds are still sitting in escrow waiting to be released by authorities with an undefined date.

**Hermitage Club-** Completed a successful test of snow making equipment and will begin making snow mid-November with a target date for opening on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, Still waiting for response from ACT 250, Saw Mill will be open to the public Dec 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Sveds-** no update provided

**Chamber-** Toboggan Auction is Nov 26<sup>th</sup> in front of Cuzzin's at Mount Snow, the Gala will be held at the Dover Forge on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm, New officers, Kristen Wallace is no longer on the board and Jesse Boyd is the new member. Nicole Reed is the new membership coordinator at the Chamber.

Other Business:       None

Next meeting on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> .

Randy moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gretchen Havreduk