

**Bi-Town Economic Development Committee**  
**Thursday, October 4, 2018 8:00-9:00am**  
**Wilmington Town Offices**

**Attendees:** Heidi Taylor, Vickie Capitani, Tom Fitzgerald, Steve Neratko, Eric Durocher, Ryan Holton, and Gretchen Havreluk

**In addition:** Sandy MacDougall

**Meeting called to order:** Heidi called the meeting to order at 8:00am

Vickie moved to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2018 meeting, Eric D seconded, all in favor.

**Act 250 Update:** Gretchen noted, "Nothing new to report."

**Housing: Bi-town Committee** - Gretchen and Vickie reported the Housing Committee met two weeks ago, both towns pledged \$2500, on Monday an application was submitted to the State for a Municipal Planning Grant of approximately \$40,000 part of which is to be used to hire an engineer. The engineer is to compile an inventory, assess needs, work force income vs. cost of rentals and an implementation plan. Vickie Lynn Larson is providing information on hostels.

**Valley Trail Update:** Gretchen advised Wilmington is looking to Sure Pack some sections and is working with Mount Snow. Mount Snow has experience with the required permitting. The Town is waiting for Mount Snow to submit a proposal for Brendan Ryan and staff work. The Town will set priorities as to the sections; "Spencer Crispe is the chairman (Dover) and should be the contact to arrange the meeting."

**VTrans Signage:** Steve advised representatives from Montpelier and locally are willing to visit and review locations, but have not yet met and approved.

**Updates –**

**Wilmington:** Tom – Starting "budget season", looking for a Police Chief (current Chief is retiring on October 31<sup>st</sup>) and to fill two additional open positions. Wilmington has reached out to Dover to explore a regional police force. Gretchen – developing RFQ for infrastructure improvement for waste water systems, as well as a Route 9 extension (waste & potentially town water) to the Health Center. "Make it on Main Street" competition has chosen three finalists. The finalists are to make public presentations on October 18<sup>th</sup> in Memorial Hall. Heidi - ground breaking ceremony for Southwestern Vermont Medical Center's expansion of the Health Center, to be held Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. The destruction of the old Rescue building will be started after the ceremony. An exhibition celebrating the hospital's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is currently at Memorial Hall.

**Dover:** Vickie – The marijuana ordinance goes into effect on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> as no petition has been submitted. Steve – Planning process, work groups of volunteer members have been formed. The groups will identify and prioritize projects. He is looking to have plans in place this Spring.

**Mount Snow, Hermitage Club and Sveds:** No updates.

**Chamber:** - Eric – Hermitage Club has asked for a two year extension from the DRB for their hotel. Wine & Harvest Festival had fewer numbers for the Stroll, weather was a factor. Organization for the Festival was improved making it easier for both vendors and participants. Profits were up even though \$3000 less was

received from Dover. The golf tournament was a good event. The "Winter-Spring Guide" is being planned, advertisers are being contacted. The Chamber Social will be in late October/early November at Rescue. The Gala will be December 7<sup>th</sup> at Mount Snow. Bob Grinold will be opening the White House, initially for lodging only.

**Other Business:** Sandy MacDougall expressed interest in Brendan McGrail's position representing Dover on the Bi-Town Economic Development Committee. Brendan's resignation is needed and Sandy will need to apply to the Dover Selectboard for their appointment.

**Next Meeting:** November 1, 2018 at Wilmington Town Office.

Eric made a motion to adjourn at 9:53, Gretchen seconded, all in favor.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Barbara R. Baum/Rachels*