

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Thursday, February 7, 2019

Attendees: Vickie Capitani, Gretchen Havreluk, Heidi Taylor, Tom Fitzgerald, Eric Durocher, Steve Neratko` (by phone providing quorum). **In addition:** Lauren Harkawik.

Meeting called to order: Gretchen called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.
Minutes of January 10 unavailable at this time. Separate sheet document attached.

Additions or changes to the agenda

Housing Committee:

Gretchen said that Dover has committed 10,000 toward housing analysis; need 20,000 to hire consultant to determine our current inventory, needs and implementation. The Wilmington Selectboard approved 10,000 for RTF. Hostel piece; looking for group of people to help with tenants. Vicki: house share program, Eric: cooperative piece in Dover Elderly, second homeowners. Sue Spengler will come to next meeting.

Marketing Committee:

Gretchen: funds have been received from both towns with a request for qualifications of potential marketing person. Data system for state of Vermont could be tapped and Gretchen will investigate putting the job listing on our website. Would forward info as necessary. Deadline 4:00 on Feb 25 for applicants. Gretchen has had inquiries. Eric: no submissions yet.

Eric: hosting event on Feb. 23 at Corinthia at 4:30pm to promote the ski to stay program. Guests would spend a few days; Saturday meet and greet and Sunday meet with real estate agents as well as possible employers. Eric reached out at a recent conference in New York of travel trades show.

Bi-Town Charge:

Vicki: worked on membership; instead of member from Hermitage, member of business community; added attendance and being able to move on from a member who is inactive. Changes have to be taken both to both boards for approval. Tom noted that inactive members should be removed, could be involved in the future and welcome to meetings. Vacancies: member at large in Dover is who? Heidi is Wilmington member at large. Could cut down on quorum regulations, try out period of three months then recommend to boards. Criteria: attend 80% of

meetings a year. Gretchen: ability to serve on sub-committees a requirement? Vicki: don't force issue; Eric: one doesn't have to be on the board to serve on sub-committees. Vicki opposed to putting more requirements on potential members. Eric: way to make this known. Vicki feels this is covered. For June 30, 2019. V: just a draft. Gretchen review goals; Mullen plan is somewhat dated. Send to Brenda with notes for review.

V-Tran Signs:

Steve reached out after last meeting; will send email to VTrans .

Other Business:

Mount Snow – Eric: well-attended recent legislative breakfast went well; reviewed visit to New York, people are very interested in our area because of location. We're in good shape. Craft Room Chili Stroll in March.

Dover: Tom: escape room recently opened at snow market place; will have Grand Opening on President's Day; recreation and other trails; received nine applications with finances coming soon.

Vicki: Working on blueberry parade.

Wilmington: Tom: budgets passed; articles warned; Town Manager to thank for getting things in place. Gretchen: Maple Leaf re-opening; professional building has DRB hearing next Monday; plan is for retail on the bottom, offices on second, storage on third; Reardon Bridge Grant, making final design plans; waiting for South Main Street; local Act 250 appointed to the Regional Act 250 Board; Governor's office called Tom to ask him to join and possibly chair; hasn't received anything official; can't complain about Act 250 without participating in solutions. Act 250 to include residential properties.

Chamber: will hold an open house for people to ask questions; date upcoming; open to the public.

Next meeting: March 7 at Wilmington Town Office
Meeting adjourned at 9:01.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Donaghue

