

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
via Zoom & Deerfield Valley Rescue
Thursday, May 5, 2022

Members present: Heidi Taylor, Gretchen Havreluk

Others present:

Members present via Zoom: Vicki Capitani, Eric Durocher, Bethaney LaClair, Christine Howe, Mat Conroy, Bill Benneyan (8:11 arrival), Adam Grinold (8:24 arrival)

Also present via Zoom: Shannon Wheeler

Meeting called to order at 8:06 am by Chair Heidi

- I. Additions or changes to the agenda: *None*
- II. Election of Chair and Vice Chair:
 - a. Vicki nominates Heidi as Chair; Christine seconds. Gretchen nominates Eric as Vice Chair, Vicki seconds. Heidi and Eric both accepted nominations. Slate received unanimous approval by committee.
- III. Approve minutes from March 3:
 - a. Motion to approve by Gretchen, seconded by Eric. Motion approved.
- IV. Housing Committee Update:
 - a. Eric created a housing website: www.deerfieldvalleyhousing.com Will get the word out after more feedback from bitown housing committee members and finalizing resource info. Additional discussion this month on what a housing trust would look like and the funding for it. Granicus joining meeting again to answer questions on possible short term rental registration process.
 - b. Gretchen: if you have any photos appropriate for the housing website please send.
- V. Marketing Committee Update:
 - a. Gretchen: working on design elements for campaign.
 - b. Eric: smaller group met recently to go over applications for content creator position posted.
 - c. Bethaney: Tim has updated website with biking and hiking pages, we pushed campaign video on social. [Can be viewed here: <https://fb.watch/cPuHFDz7Ad/>]
- VI. DV Fiber Update:
 - a. Gretchen: moving along with GWI on Phase 1. Interviews are taking place for Executive Director position. Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 10.
 - b. Eric: Consolidated running fiber locally with RDOF money and matching those funds to complete the build out. With a few camp exceptions, all of East and West Dover will be run with fiber. Believe same happening in Wilmington.
- VII. Other Business:
 - a. Walgreens Complaint Spreadsheet: No new complaints, will refer to this moving forward as feedback.
- VIII. Wilmington update:
 - a. Gretchen: Beaver St art project has another section in. May 18 opening for that. June 25 opening for Public Safety building. Road Commissioner retiring end of June and are in interview process. Went to DRB on Monday for the Reardon Bridge Ramp project. Hoping for late Fall construction. Commercial real estate is still moving.
- IX. Dover update:
 - a. Vicki: Town Meeting May 17, pre-town meeting Tuesday, May 10. Received \$200,000 paving grant; our first state funding for paving ever. Will use on Lower Handle Rd and will start just after Memorial Day.

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- b. Eric: Trails and Rec process documents had their first project come through and get to Selectboard approval. DO-IT applications are open and close May 31st. ARPA reporting taken care of. Working on RFPs for in process recreation projects. Presenting at Summit next Thursday on Dover Town Forest. Q3 update given to Selectboard this week, the 1% payment was up 63% over last year but almost 10% over the previous. Summer concerts coming up. Events sponsorship program updated to a shorter period for returning events. Purchased trail counters so we can begin tracking data. Placed no camping/fire signs at a couple of locations as we have had camper vans and RVs in parking lots.

X. Mount Snow update:

- a. Mat: new lifts are coming along quickly, old lifts all out and blasting and pouring happening soon. Golf Course opening next Friday, May 13. Leagues start middle of June, bringing back Junior league. Scenic lift rides opening Memorial Day weekend.

XI. Hermitage Club update:

- a. Bill: this month makes 2 years since the Members took possession of the club. What a success, we have roughly doubled membership which is well ahead of original plan. 8 Townhomes completed and are all sold. A lot of work and a lot of fun. We're in a stable position and looking forward to next season.

XII. BDCC update:

- a. Adam: Summit next week. Refugee work continues and expecting a cohort of 30 soon. Busy summer ahead with development and continuing to see demand for new and expanded space from Wilmington/Dover to Rockingham and Brattleboro – everywhere. All different business sectors and sizes.

XIII. Chamber update:

- a. Bethaney: Mixers are returning, starting in May at Trail 87, June at Hogback and July at Chez Nous. Deep cleaning Visitors Center to make space for artist showcase. Continuing to reengage lapsed members. Working on posting daily on social media. Partnering with BDCC on Business Pitch Competition at Trail 87.

[Chair Heidi left meeting and Vice Chair Eric took control at 8:49]

XIV. Moover update:

- a. Christine: in the midst of grant season, including 5 years this time. Moover back to basic fixed routes in Wilmington. Still looking for drivers including non CDL vans. Looking for volunteer drivers here as well – mileage reimbursement.

XV. Next meeting June 2.

XVI. Motion to adjourn by Christine at 8:56am, seconded by Mat

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Wheeler
Economic Development, Town of Dover