

**Bi-Town Economic Development Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**via Zoom & Deerfield Valley Rescue**  
**Thursday, January 5, 2023**

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Members present: Gretchen Havreluk, Heidi Taylor, Brian Suhadolc, Bethaney LeClair, Bill Benneyan, Adam Grinold

Members present via Zoom: Vicki Capitani, Eric Durocher, Christine Howe

Also present: Jessica Roberts

Also present via Zoom: Shannon Wheeler

**Meeting called to order at 8:00 am by Chair Heidi**

- I. Additions or changes to the agenda: *None*
- II. Approve minutes of December 1:
  - a. Motion to approve by Eric, seconded by Bethaney. Motion approved.
- III. Housing Committee Update:
  - a. Wilmington Works Economic Development Committee put together an ADU Flyer, will share with Dover once completed and get out. Made some housing website updates. Gretchen presented LTR incentive program to Wilmington Selectboard and they want to move forward. Two incentives in program, one is \$10,000 for adding an ADU to property, other is converting an existing STR to a LTR for \$3-7,000. Subcommittee meeting on STR in info gathering phase still, had meeting this week.
- IV. Marketing Committee Update:
  - a. Executed marketing director contract. Moving forward with spring 2023 campaign. Continued collaboration with Chamber. Some talk of an informal business survey regularly on marketing campaign.
- V. Connectivity update:
  - a. Cellular Coverage Map: They reached out to Dover with survey - we put it out on our channels, was also advertised in Deerfield Valley News. These are the results [will send out with minutes shared exclusive to this group]. While not many responses they did say this is enough to go to providers and request additional towers.
- VI. Other Business: *None*
- VII. Wilmington update:
  - a. Selectboard working on budget and town meeting warning. In person town meeting this year. Completed all GMP easements to move poles for East Main St sidewalk project, hoping for construction by Fall. Working on Rt 9 water sewer infrastructure grant. Some closings on buildings in town.
- VIII. Dover update:
  - a. Vicki: also working on budget, had another meeting yesterday and will vote on it at 1/17 meeting; it's up quite a bit. CLA is terrible - 94.19 to 81.34. We are under contract for reappraisal, first since 2010. Not available until 2026 grand list year, not sure how that will affect school taxes yet. In person town meeting day March 7 at Town Hall and preTown Meeting 2/28 at Town Hall.
  - b. Eric: Closed the RFP for trails & rec project on Horace Hill and selected a Trails company. Disc Golf RFP that was open at same time was reopened for additional responses. Hoping they work together in Spring for design to begin breaking ground after. Went over our budget with Selectboard. Working with a couple of buyers on two properties for new long term rentals. Currently trying to set up meeting with DEC and Rep. Sabilia to see if there is any other funding

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sources or help for the Town Common well project. Awaiting on PFAS testing results from new well.

**IX. Mount Snow update:**

- a. Successful holiday week, weather was interesting. Didn't park out but were close on two days. Waiting for weather to change. Both new lifts are open.

**X. Hermitage Club update:**

- a. Successful short holiday week. Looking forward to weekend. Membership still going strong with many young families. Working with Chamber on a community ski day on 2/6.

**XI. BDCC update:**

- a. Onboarding business technical assistance new team member. Still seeing an uptick in requests for this help. Valley has own volunteer group for new refugees help, new group coming in from Ethiopia/refugee camps. Next piece we'll be helping with is local legal services. Looking ahead to next year's business plan competition. Looking forward to legislative and grant seasons.

**XII. Chamber update:**

- a. Gala held beginning of December, awarded 5 business and individual recipients. 15% increase in membership renewals so far, new portal for them going well. Full 2023 event calendar, next is Beer & Chili stroll 3/31. Trying to bring in a staff member. Wilmington Works just wrapped up ESSL and are calculating numbers.

**XIII. Moover update:**

- a. Made it through holiday week with some drivers out sick. No tallies yet but there were some very busy days at the mountain. Night Moover was very close to a one day record. Lots of movement for Mount Snow international workers heading to Brattleboro.

**XIV. Other Business: *None***

**XV. Next meeting February 2nd.**

**XVI. Motion to adjourn by Gretchen at 8:37am, seconded by Eric**

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Wheeler  
Economic Development, Town of Dover