

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
via Zoom & Deerfield Valley Rescue
Thursday, February 2, 2023

Members present: Gretchen Havreluk, Heidi Taylor, Brian Suhadolc, Bill Benneyan

Members present via Zoom: Vicki Capitani, Eric Durocher, Christine Howe, Adam Grinold (8:15)

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 January 5:

a. Motion to approve by Bill, seconded by Eric. Motion approved.

III. Housing Committee Update:

a. Did not have last month's meeting. Meeting February 9. Continuing to work on ADU flyer. Short term rental continuing to meet this coming Monday, still gathering information. Working on linking deerfieldvalleyhousing.com from as many places as possible.

IV. Marketing Committee Update:

a. Finalized FY23 Budget at January meeting. Working on hospitality video, hoping to shoot in April. Planning for VisitVermont.com stickers for local employees. 2023 campaign and creative planning has begun with Trampoline. Working on signage plan across both towns. Planning to show campaign here in April.

V. Connectivity Update: *None*

VI. Other Business:

a. Gretchen: BDCC hosting round table discussion Monday from 10-11:30am at OSEC on Town and Regional projects. Includes VTrans, ANR, ACCD, agencies across the board. If you have a project, it's a good opportunity to get it out there. Looking at ARPA funding that must be spent down by 2026.

VII. Wilmington update:

a. Getting ready for Town Meeting, report should be ready for pick up in mid-February. Submitted community recovery and revitalization grant application for Route 9 infrastructure expansion project for \$800,000, a great start to the \$4 million budget. Going for Northern Borders next and hopeful for Congressional directed funding as well. On a VLCT call on discussion in state legislature on TIF districts. Will follow this in legislature, they have called for Selectboard letters of support on it.

VIII. Dover update:

a. Vicki: In person town meeting on March 7. PreTown Meeting on Wednesday, March 1 due to school conflict. Budget up 9%, 10% if include capital equipment where it should go. Have never come close to this increase before. Hoping for a great yield so taxes don't go up as much as they could potentially.

b. Eric: Disc golf RFP re-release submissions have been scored, will make a recommendation to the Board Tuesday. Updated cameras and screen for hybrid meetings at Town Offices. Despite the weather, businesses have reported a good season. Initial conversations for a Christmas movie looking to shoot in Dover. Trying to find funding for Town Common PFAS well project. Looking to meet to confirm uses for ARPA money soon.

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IX. Mount Snow update:

- a. Sunday is halfway mark of the season. Parked out two of last three weekends. Continuing to blow snow when weather allows.

X. Hermitage Club update:

- a. Strong MLK, last weekend had busiest day ever in our three years. By end of season think membership will be full. Grenoble Townhome project is wrapping up. Seeking developers for next project of townhomes and single family homes. Monday should be good weather for first community ski day.

XI. BDCC update:

- a. Monday from 10-11:30 meeting at OSEC helping ACCD with members of Governor's cabinet speaking to public to help with bringing ARPA funding down to their projects. Then moving to Rockingham at 2-3:30 at Municipal Offices. Deep in planning for Annual Summit, May 23 at Hermitage, info will roll out in coming weeks. Just finished call with head of Rural LISC, a national non profit CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution) focused on rural economies. Head of that will be keynote speaker at Summit.

XII. Chamber update: *None in attendance*

XIII. Moover update:

- a. 18% uptick in ridership over last winter in the Valley mostly due to Internationals. Halfway through Winter and some driver shortages mostly due to illness and think that might just be the norm moving forward. Micro transit program began in Windsor.

XIV. Other Business: *None*

XV. Next meeting March 2nd.

XVI. Motion to adjourn by Eric at 8:32am, seconded by Bill

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Wheeler
Economic Development, Town of Dover