

Bi-Town Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
via Zoom & Deerfield Valley Rescue
Thursday, January 8, 2026

Members present: Christine Howe, Heidi Taylor

Members present via Zoom: Shannon Wheeler, Vicki Capitani, Lea Gabrielle Potts, Josh DeBottis, Adam Grinold, Charlie Foster (8:03)

Also present via Zoom: Sam Kondracki

A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://youtu.be/77IKroM1kAw>

Meeting called to order at 8:01 am by Vice Chair Christine

- I. Public Comments: *None*
- II. Additions or changes to the agenda: *None*
- III. Approve minutes of November 6th meeting:
 - a. Motion to approve by Heidi seconded by Christine. Motion approved (Vicki abstained)
- IV. Housing Committee Update:
 - a. Shannon: Looking to reboot this group soon, will send out some information to try for February.
- V. Marketing Committee Update:
 - a. Shannon: Funding requests to both towns approved in November for this year's campaigns. Meeting next week.
- VI. Other Business: *None*
- VII. Wilmington Update:
 - a. Gretchen via Charlie: releasing RFPs for East Main St sidewalk and sewer project. Working with 3 potential new business owners in Wilmington. Working with Jeff Nugent at Windham Regional on a parking analysis for downtown in Spring. Working on Route 9 Water and Sewer projected. 2025 showed a decline in meals and room sales. Focus for 2026 is supporting our local businesses and recruiting new, innovative businesses.
 - b. Charlie: approved '27 Budget Tuesday, Town Meeting March 3rd.
- VIII. Dover Update:
 - a. Vicki: special meeting Tuesday morning to approve budget and town meeting warning. Last night was the 2nd of 3 Water Task Force presentations about a municipal water system in Dover. Can't say it was well attended. Another meeting in February; no action at Town Meeting.
 - b. Shannon: ED budget is in, Town Report items due this week. In final stage of interviews for recreation manager position.
- IX. Hermitage Club Update:
 - a. Josh: Been busy, hoping for better weather for this weekend. Hosted Mount Snow Adaptive Sports Warren Miller event in late November. Community Ski Day is February 2nd and hosting Vermont Special Olympics on March 9th and 10th.
- X. Mount Snow Update:
 - a. Lea: Scored three Ski Area Management magazine terrain park nominations for park crew, Carinthia classic event and edit. Holiday celebrations were fun, held a Grommet Jam and Torchlight parade and fireworks. Kicked off Elevate, a women's ski and snowboard camp. First First Tracks of season tomorrow. January 31st will offer disco tubing and a mid-season block party. Upcoming events Pride Weekend, Women's Weekend, Carinthia Classic, Jack Jump World Championships, Reggae Fest with Sink or Swim and Duct Tape Derby.
- XI. BDCC Update:

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- a. Adam: Sign up for newsletter if you don't receive it. A lot of events upcoming. This week in Wilmington hosting municipalities from across southern Vermont for leadership development. Several BizConnect events throughout the region. Working with Wilmington Works and Chambers in supporting entrepreneurial efforts. Had done a lot of work for New American relocation efforts but flow of immigration is drastically reducing in coming year. Recognize a decrease in activity but want to keep the muscle memory there should federal policy change. Economy Summit in May at Grand Summit, reach out to Meg or Adam if you'd like to participate in a panel.

XII. Moover Update:

- a. Christine: Still collecting ridership info but weather affected holiday riders. Last Friday was busiest day of the two weeks, seemed like a happy holiday period. Demand response is all good, haven't seen any additional cuts as we head into budget and grant season.

XIII. Chamber Update:

- a. Shannon: Held a well-attended mixer Tuesday at Red Door Burger. These are happening monthly and you're seeing that info in member newsletters to your email. 2026 Event Dates are set and expect to see more on those soon. Chamber is still fully staffed, and Pam will be reaching out to members on benefits.

XIV. Motion to adjourn by Heidi, seconded by Charlie at 8:25 am.

Next meeting March 5th

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Wheeler
Economic Development, Town of Dover