



Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday May 16, 2018

Charlie opened the meeting at 6:02 pm

Committee members in attendance:

Charlie Albano – Chair

Nancy Martin – Conservation Commission

Sarah Hansen - Agricultural

Emma Bates - Resident

Clyde Carson - Selectman's Representative

Will Minsinger – Resident

Joe Mendola - Business Owner

Bret Ingold - Resident/Business Owner

Absent: Peter Anderson - Planning Board, Marc Violette - Resident, Neil Nevins - Business Owner

1. Meeting Minutes

- A. The EDAC reviewed the April 18 meeting minutes. Clyde said he doesn't have an answer for the Landuse Secretary participation. Charlie said he has included the Landuse Secretary on the web emails and has invited her to meetings as well.
- B. Bret will be meeting with the Selectboard at the next Selectman's meeting to be appointed to the EDAC.
- C. Will made a motion to approve meeting minutes dated April 18, 2018. Charlie seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

2. EDAC Survey

- A. Emma said she has put the survey into a Google form. Then she sent it to the Webmaster who has created a page for the town's website with the form embedded and is waiting for the date to go live. The survey will be distributed through the town's Newsletter. The completed survey's can be returned to the Library and the Selectman's office or completed on-line with a 30-day deadline. The EDAC is not concerned about duplication of the survey. Emma will be compiling the information in spreadsheet form.

3. Tourism Conference

- A. Charlie attended a full day conference in Concord for Tourism. The Tourism Director said the best thing that can be done is to get on-line and hook up to VisitNH.com. Hotels are another source that will spin off a lot of economic activity in the community.

4. Brochure

- A. Sarah, Emma and Charlie met at an earlier time and looked at a stack of brochure's and went over how they want Warner presented in a brochure. From the brochure's they looked through Emma gravitated to a bucket list idea and started a list such as covered bridges, museums etc., along with a write-up. Emma is hoping to create an updated logo as well. Clyde suggested the current brochures for the Indian Museum and other's cross reference each other.
- B. Clyde said he attended a NH Scenic Byways tourism conference. Warner is on the scenic by-way and during the conference they talked about interactive maps. Central NH Regional Planning Commission has 2 summer students that are GIS knowledgeable and the Currier & Ives has an opportunity to create an interactive map by CNHRPC. Clyde will pursue for the EDAC's behalf.
- C. Charlie obtained a printing estimate, for 1,000 brochure's, the cost would be \$268.00. Bret checked at the 93 rest area and none of the museums are in the brochure library.

5. Web Design

- A. Charlie said the web design sub-committee is comprised of the Selectboard, Charlie, Emma, Will and the Landuse Secretary. There are 3 presenters scheduled to present on June 6 and June 13 at the Town Hall. The committee will have an assessment form to fill out for each presentation. Charlie asked the presenters to send all on the sub-committee everything they sent Charlie.

6. Business Retention

Charlie wants the sub-committee to focus on how to retain the current businesses as well.

7. Rest Area on Route 103

Clyde said in regards to signs, he is working with the DPW on ordering 8 Currier & Ives Scenic by-way signs. An application needs to be made to the state regarding the placement of the signs. Clyde said he has a meeting tomorrow with Doug Evans who owns the Evans gas station and will talk to him about putting a chamber of commerce sign on his property. Charlie asked Clyde about the rest area and Clyde said he didn't take that as an action item and Charlie asked Clyde to do so for the next meeting. Charlie asked Clyde if signage can be installed at the rest area indicating there is more to Warner a few miles up the road. Clyde added another item that may come into play. The Town Hall front lawn is planned to have an area from the driveway to Kearsarge Insurance from the sidewalk back 8 to 10 feet available for vendor set-up, and a new home for the kiosk is needed. Emma said the PTO needs a kiosk. Emma will write a request on behalf of the PTO for the kiosk. Bret mentioned the State Park & Ride, how an informational kiosk would be helpful there. Emma mentioned making an app., the museums have been working on apps. as well. Clyde said the chamber of commerce sign he is proposing could also serve as an informational directional sign. Clyde also suggested directional signs in the middle of the village as well. Charlie asked Clyde to look into his suggestions to see if they are allowable along with a map concept at the rest area.

8. Sports Complex

Marc sent Charlie an email saying he is in the process of contacting the person who was looking for property.

9. Old Graded School

- A. Nancy and Emma visited the Old Graded School to investigate the open space available for a future business incubator site. Nancy was informed that one of the rooms currently has an interest for a preschool starting in the fall of 2019. Clyde said having a place for parents to send their children so they can work is important in addition to having work force housing as well. Charlie said what he is looking for is who is in the Old Graded School, what is the cost for the town and what tenants are paying. Charlie said childcare is a huge economic driver.
- B. Emma said the one room that is available is being used for storage by the CAP Agency. The room size is about 25' x 25'. The top floor is not handicap accessible. Nancy talked to the contractor that owns the Odd Fellows Building about a business incubator and he thought it was a good idea in about 5 years. Emma recommended holding workshops leading up to a business incubator. Charlie said for the benefit of the Selectmen, the EDAC is interested in the opportunity to develop an incubator in the Old Graded School. Joe asked if the EDAC will be the developer of that space? Charlie said the sub-committee made up of Emma and Nancy would do research on incubator's and work with a potential builder. Emma doesn't feel the Old Graded School is a good fit for a business incubator. Will recommended an academic sponsor to talk to for recommendations to help the EDAC develop a business incubator.

10. Chamber of Commerce

Joe will begin attending the Chamber of Commerce meetings.

11. Business Incentives

Charlie passed out information for the EDAC to read regarding business incentives. Clyde said as a State Representative he has initiated through the Legislative Research Office in Concord to identify RSA's that are business friendly that the town could adopt as well with Central NH Regional Planning Commission. Clyde is hoping the Selectboard will present these incentives through a warrant next year.

12. Jackson, NH

Charlie talked about how Jackson, NH allows residents to pay their property taxes with a credit card. Warner does not and his question is why. Clyde said when someone registers their car with a credit card the town is charged a

fee from the processing company. Joe said he has property in Hillsborough and he pays his taxes on-line with a credit card. Bret will call Jackson about the use of credit cards.

13. Meeting Schedule

Next meeting is June 20, 2018.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 7:30 pm.

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen