



Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes October 17, 2018

Charlie opened the meeting at 6:05 pm

Committee members in attendance:

Charlie Albano – Chair

Nancy Martin – Conservation Commission

Emma Bates - Resident

Neil Nevins - Business Owner

Mark Govoni - Resident

Clyde Carson - Selectman's Representative

Will Minsinger – Resident

Sarah Hansen - Agricultural

Don Hall - Planning Board (arrived at about 6:45 pm)

Absent: Bret Ingold - Resident/Business Owner, Joe Mendola - Business Owner

Others present: Krystin Watts - Local Artist

1. New Member

Charlie introduced Mark Govoni, the newest member of the EDAC. Mark wanted a chance to participate in trying to find out what can be done in Warner and what is wanted in Warner. Also, Charlie said Don Hall from the Planning Board will be taking Peter Anderson's place on the Committee.

2. EDAC Survey

Will is working on the survey data. Emma is creating a presentation that will be ready for the public meeting in November. Will said the survey reflected the need for restaurants, pubs and cafe coffee shops. There was 75 responses out of 147 for such entities. There were 48 responses supporting hotels and other hospitality options. Health care options such as urgent care was also indicated. Small businesses, auto parts store, dentist and a brewery was also popular in the survey. Don Hall talked about the history regarding past businesses that tried to develop in Warner. Charlie and others believe the will of the people has changed.

3. Public Presentation

During the public meeting which will be scheduled for November 15th beginning at 7:00 pm and held at the Town Hall, the survey results will be discussed as well as what the Committee is working on. Clyde asked Charlie to send the Selectboard information pertaining to the public meeting before the meeting is held. Nancy suggested advertising the meeting on the illuminated road sign, Nancy will take the lead on the sign.

4. Tourism Brochure

Emma provided copies of a brochure she created based on feedback from the Committee. More feedback was provided about the pictures on the brochure and making the village area (Main St.) a strong feature. The brochure will be connected to the website, details will be worked out. The cost for the brochures will be about \$2,000 and Charlie would like them available as a hand-out at the next Town Meeting. Clyde suggested obtaining a cost for distributing the brochure as well.

5. Geographical Information System

Charlie said the Committee will be asking the Selectmen for funding towards a GIS, he spoke briefly with the Town Administrator about it. Charlie feels it would be beneficial for the GIS funding if the website is up and running and the brochure is completed by Town Meeting.

6. Website

Charlie said Dan Watts has been selected to be the website developer. Charlie met with the Town Administrator last week to provide suggestions of what may be in the contract to build a new website. Other vendor contracts were reviewed as a guide. Charlie has stated to the Selectboard that the EDAC would be happy to develop the tourism and economic development part of the website. Charlie asked for two sub-committees to work on building those aspects. Charlie asked Mark to work on developing economic development, Charlie will be on both sub-committees,

Emma volunteered for both as well. Neil has been generating a business list. Emma, Sarah and Charlie will be on the tourism sub-committee and Charlie, Mark and Neil will be on the economic development sub-committee. Charlie encouraged all to look at various sites. Krystin volunteered her time as well to be involved in the website design.

7. Mural

Charlie said the owner of the building granted permission for the mural. The building is located on the corner of Main St. and Kearsarge Extension. Krystin Watts would like to work on the mural project as well as becoming an EDAC member. Brett is also on the mural sub-committee and Krystin will contact Brett. Charlie will reconfirm with both of the owners of the building for approval in writing.

8. Fall Foliage Festival

There was discussion about having a Festival member participate in the EDAC. Nancy suggested Mark be the EDAC representative to the festival. Charlie will send an email to Daryl Parker inviting a FFF member to a meeting for a representation discussion.

9. 250th Town Celebration

Clyde reported the first meeting will take place on October 18th beginning at 7:00 pm. Emma is planning on attending the meeting.

10. Business Retention and Expansion

Neil spent time on Main St. talking to the businesses. The main thing that comes up is signage at Exit 9. Clyde said there is a proposal from the Department of Transportation on where a sign can be placed. The intent is to inform traffic about the village area. Neil talked about expanding the local map of Warner as well.

11. Tax Payments

Charlie will look into paying taxes by credit cards.

12. Tax Incentives

Charlie asked Clyde if the Selectboard has identified the boundaries of what will be done. Clyde said the Selectboard has not discussed it yet. Charlie said this is another item he would like to see completed by Town Meeting.

13. Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes dated September 19 were unanimously approved.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 7:45 pm.

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen