

FRYEBURG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

December 14, 2015, Fryeburg Town Office

In attendance: Janice Crawford - Chair, David Chaffee, Nancy Kiesman, Rick Eastman, Katie Haley, Mia Purcell

Janice Crawford called meeting to order at 6 PM

Meeting minutes from October 26, 2015 were approved

Nancy Kiesman has been appointed Committee Secretary in place of David Chaffe so he may devote his time and energy to the Asset Mapping project

Financial Report was tabled

Airport/Budget Committee - no report

Planning Board - Katie Haley reported the expansion of the Art House on Portland Street as a bakery has been approved with conditions. The next meeting is scheduled for December 29, 2015. The proposed agenda would focus on ordinance revisions, specifically sub divisions, shoreland zoning revisions and others as allowed.

Rick Eastman, Selectmen Chair, reported an impending meeting with Jay Robinson - MSAD 72 School Superintendent, the Selectmen, Katie Haley - Code Enforcement Officer, and the Planning Board regarding an acceptable future plan for the C. A. Snow School.

Grant Possibilities - Nancy Kiesman reported difficulty in researching grants for downtown since the revitalization grant is not an option for 2016. Mia Purcell suggested researching grants mentioned by Paul Schumacher - Executive Director of Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission. Specifically TIF (Tax Increment Finance).

Water District/MWVRC/Tourism Plan - Janice Crawford reported the PDI Report Findings presentation, originally scheduled for this meeting, will first be presented to the Planning Board. Katie Haley will present a summary to the Committee. Janice plans to present a Tourism Plan to the Fryeburg Business Association in time for their annual meeting at the Fryeburg Academy Arts Center on January 27, 2016. Also, to review with the FBA the Comprehensive Plan items that support the EDC. More engagement from more people (FBA, DOT, EDC) to accomplish tasks for branding Fryeburg.

Recreation Department - Rick Eastman reported the Rec Dept met with the Selectmen. The building design and financial goals have been met and plan to start building in the spring. The Rec Dept Board is open to programming ideas from the public for the buildings use.

Asset Mapping/Fryeburg Business Association - David Chaffee reported all meeting notes are up-to-date on the town website and thanked Nancy Kiesman for taking over the Secretary responsibilities. David reports he has a call into Ashley Pringle (Maine & CO) and Diane Jackson (Governor's EDC Account Executive) asking what their hope is for the EDC to accomplish. Asset mapping will tell our story, identify

what we have and to leverage it to benefit Fryeburg. David plans to recruit FBA members over the next few weeks for assistance with this project. David's handouts were very detailed and helpful.

Guest Speaker - William Reilly from the Maine Real Estate Network on commercial real estate opportunities in Fryeburg. Mr. Reilly stated Fryeburg's number one concern should be the high traffic corridor of Route 302 from Jockey Cap to Menotomy Road.

- *Address zoning of 200 foot narrow corridor alongside the route (Per Kent Pidgeon and Katie Haley - future land use ordinance hopes to change this somewhere down the line)

- *Decrease speed limit from 50mph to 35mph to Menotomy Road

- *Address the signage coming into Fryeburg from New Hampshire on Route 302

- *Signage should promote Fryeburg as the Gateway to the Western Mountains or other appropriate indicator

- *Websites should promote recreation and tourism - biking, hiking, canoeing, Evans Notch, cross country skiing, snowmobile trails, trail maps, etc.

- *Hire a public relations person to sell Fryeburg - appropriate \$20K out of Fryeburg Fair donation to pay for this service

- *Route 302 corridor is a viable business area with no impact on rural character of town

- *Need to weigh needs of community versus commercial developments

- *Collaborate with Fryeburg Academy - advantageous to both town and school

Gateways Project - no report

Business Friendly Certification Request - Katie Haley reported unknown timeline on response to application submitted on November 20, 2015

Rick Eastman requested a copy of the Fryeburg Water District letter in order to prepare for any negativity that might arise. Kent Pidgeon expressed the ordinances are being followed, there are rules, it's not political

Next meeting is January 25, 2016 at 6 PM in the Town Office

Meeting adjourned around 7:45