

Bristol Economic Development Committee

April 17, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Present: Vice Chair, Bruce Dorner, Paul Barnett, Wayne Anderson, Vincent Paul Migliore, Paul Bemis, and Nancy Spears, Carolyn Shulman and Ex-officio Nik Coates.

Bill Dowey and Wayne Anderson were absent.

Others Present: Ed Mandelbaum

Bruce Dorner opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Nancy Spears motioned to approve the minutes of March 20, 2019, seconded by Paul Bemis. Vincent Paul Migliore said his name was spelled wrong in the minutes and asked Kathy Vogan to correct it. The vote was **5 in Favor – 0 Abstained - 0 Opposed.**

Reports and Updates:

Master Plan:

Bruce Dorner told the committee that Wayne Anderson said there was nothing happening yet with the Master Plan.

Incubator/Business Development Center:

Paul Barnett said we need a plan for incubator space he also said that he and Nik Coates had met with the TD and Franklin banks. They have not heard back from the banks as of yet. Paul also spoke about a grant for the completion of the new town offices. He also said that they need to put all information on paper so they are ready for the power supply incubator.

Robotics & Energy:

Paul Bemis said the students did well with the new program was a success. He said they had two teachers and two engineers to help out with the program and that they will do it again next year. There was a lot of interest. He said they will need money about \$10,000.00 so we need to figure that out a fund raising plan. He wants to promote the program at the parade because he wants the students to feel competitive. Nancy Spears said her business would donate \$500.00 and Ed Mandelbaum said his business would donate \$1,000.00 to the program. Paul Bemis wants to get PSU involved and Carolyn Shulman said she would speak to the homeowners associations. Paul Bemis said he would like to see the solar energy plant get done this year. We need to put out an RFP for suppliers of solar energy. He also said he wants the committee to become a member of the NH Energy and the Plymouth area regional Initiative which would be a cost of about \$500.00. If we can get the solar array in place to be water and sewer independent there is a lot of solar opportunity here in town. The pricing of battery and solar is coming down. Paul Barnett said put in for a place marker to do a market study and earmark it for energy. Nik Coates said the EDC should provide a recommendation for that.

Sewer & Town Updates:

Nik Coates spoke about the sewer going from the lake south saying they have applied for \$20,000,000.00 for a grant and loan package through the USDA. Nik said we will be getting it we are not sure how it will be split up. He also said for the next six months they need to secure funding we will need to raise \$10 million dollars to move forward.

Workforce Development/Housing, Website, Town Goal setting:

Bruce Dorner asked the committee if we want to dig into housing and workforce development, do we have the time or resources. Paul Bemis feels that we need to take small steps. Is the housing market driven or should we think about pushing rehabilitation of properties. Carolyn Shulman said rentals are important. Vincent Migliore said we need to have affordable housing. Bruce said we need to give this some thought for the next meeting. Ed Mandlebaum said we need infrastructure first in order to bring corporations here. Bruce went on to say that there are some new ideas for the website and how the EDC site will mesh with the town site. Nik Coates spoke on the committee having a work session at the next meeting to meet with Kevin and also Carmen Lorenz he said they would like to do single family affordable homes. Vincent Migliore said tiny homes are an up and coming thing that we could also think about. Carolyn Shulman said that things are starting to happen. Nik Coates went on to say that the town goals report would be out in a month or two. He also said that the committee had a few things they were working on and should be completed before working on more new ideas. Nik spoke about fiber and said that they hired Fiber Net out of Concord. He said they were finishing the design and starting permitting. He would like to see it constructed this year but more than likely would be next year. Nik told the committee that there is a cell tower being put at the wood chip plant in Alexandria. We also have a cell tower permit coming to the Planning Board in the next few months.

Inter-generation project w/ the schools/Senior involvement / State legislative update:

Vincent Paul Migliore spoke about the Friends Project saying we have the students from the middle school and up but we need the seniors to come forward. He also said for the legislative update they spoke about Tiny Housing their meeting showed something needs to be done. There is a zoning and regulation cap on Solar at 1 megawatt we would like to bring it up to 5 megawatts.

Bike Rack Grant/EDC articles and press releases:

Carolyn Shulman said the approval of our application for the grant of \$5,000.00 for Bike Racks, and Park Benches, will be on April 23rd. Paul Barnett maybe we could have people pay for memorial benches they do that down the cape it wouldn't cost the town anything. Nik Coates said they would like to have 14 bike racks around town.

Storefront and Town Square update:

The storefront that Mr. Mandlebaum rented is all cleaned up and ready to go his lease will renew on May 1st we do not want to open until we have the liability insurance. She also spoke to Tom at the Purple Pit and he hopes to open the pizza restaurant in May with a soft opening before that. He had to do a huge amount of work. The Barber shop is also doing well.

Nik Coates said that the appointments to the committee were approved by the Select Board.

Election of Chair of EDC:

Carolyn Shulman motioned to have Bill Dowey be Chair of the EDC, seconded by Paul Bemis. The vote was **6 in Favor – 0 Opposed – 0 Abstained.**

New Business: Explanation about group communications or emails to discuss committee business

Nik Coates spoke about important business of the committee shall not be discussed in person or by email outside of meetings.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Bruce Dorner asked for a motion to close the meeting at 8:10 P.M. Paul Bemis motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Nancy Spears. The vote was **6 in Favor – 0 Abstained - 0 Opposed**.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kathleen Vogan