

EDC Meeting 9/26/19

Present: Laura Buono, Robyn Payson, Dana Brien, Robert Hassett, Ken Matthews, JP Stohrer

Meeting opened at 9:14am:

Ms. Payson announced that Ms. Williams has asked that someone else take on the position of Chairperson. Discussion followed and Mr. Stohrer volunteered to take it on. Mr. Hassett made the motion to appoint JP Stohrer as Chair. Ms. Payson seconded. The motion passed

Recap of Charrette project kickoff meeting: First goal for all groups is to recommend one project that will lead to an early success. Ms Payson stressed that the town's people have to take action to move this process forward. The next meeting of the project group will be the October 7th meeting at American Legion of Hillsboro Reborn at 5:30pm.

The issue of parking came up at the charrette meeting. There are people who believe there is a parking problem in spite of all of the evidence to the contrary. Ms. Payson and Ms. Buono reiterated that parking is not an issue. A map will be made by the town and distributed by EDC. The town is waiting for the correct program to create the map. Options for distribution were discussed.

Mr. Stohrer asked who will oversee all the groups and coordinate the efforts of all. Ms. Buono stated that the intention is Ms. Payson and Steven Meno from UNH and Plan NH will work on coordinating the groups. Mr. Matthews recommended that we ask volunteers to sign up as the Charrette Group and bring all the groups together under one umbrella.

There was discussion on how to best publicize the upcoming charrette project meetings. Using Facebook, Twitter, Direct Mail, Newspaper ads to publicize the ongoing project meetings was discussed. Katherine Ralph mentioned at the charrette meeting that "no one in her generation knew about the meeting."

The commission discussed objectives for 2020. Laura informed the commission that the town's 250th anniversary is in 2022. She said this was a great opportunity to showcase community. Discussion included developing groups for seasonal projects.

Mr. Hassett suggested that all who want on West Main Street and Henniker Street could put up matching planters using donated materials. A public maker space available and "kits" put together for families to pick up and made them at home if they choose. This idea was met with overall enthusiasm.

Superintendent update: School opening was the best it's been in 8 years. Culture and team is absolutely the best. New structure at Elementary School has two principals and a behavioral interventionist, and added another guidance counselor. CSI designation allowed \$150,000 to come into HDES. New arrangement of classrooms to allow for good role modeling and ease of administration of p-2 and 3-5 groups.

Town Administrator report: Ms. Buono attended the CNHRP meeting last month and saw state DOT has moved our sidewalk funding out a year to 2021 on the ten year plan, however, DOT has stated that if we are ready 2020, they can address whether to move it back up.

For budget items, Ms. Buono stated the Board of Selectmen were discussing making a capital reserve fund for paying out payroll accruals to retiring town employees, and funds for the 250th Birthday of Hillsborough.

Meeting ended at 10:18am

Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Brien