

Draft
Minutes Economic Development Center
Hillsborough Police Department 9:00 a.m.

Date submitted May 22, 2014

Present: Alan B. Urquhart, Robyn Payson, Laura Buono, Robert Hassett, Herm Weigelman, Steve Venezia, and Jane Williams.

Absent: Laurel Brown, Russ Galapin and Jack Wells

Guest: Rosemary Urquhart

Approval of April 24, 2014 Minutes motion to approve Doug Hatfield second Herm Weigelman.

Mike Black guest speaker rescheduled.

Mike Tardiff to be continued next meeting.

CEDS update: No update grants pending.

Dedicated TV Station: Laura Bouno expressed interest in having a public access channel. There is a contract issue that has to be resolved before we can move forward. Open discussion all present was in favor of public access for School Board Meetings, Selectman's Meetings and all types of community activities such as seniors and many other uses. It was discussed that the high school studio could be used as a training program for students entering the field of production.

Chamber of Commerce-Marketing Committee: Steve Venezia presented the new design pamphlets to be distributed statewide at rest areas, welcome centers and many other locations. The pamphlet promotes all the things that Hillsborough offers from community wide yard sales to Living History. The Chamber has donated \$250.00 and Steve requested another \$250.00 from Pride and EDC. Alan Urquhart motion to approve \$250.00 second by Herm Wiegelman.

Discussion of the Smith Building and CEDS Grant for a Town Hall/Regional Community Center. As the town grows the importance of a town hall will be an integral part of the community development. The impact of a Regional Community Center would be huge for the town and surrounding communities. This center would even impact the school in utilizing sports events such as swimming and student volunteers to help senior citizens and the handicapped.

The Town Hall in the meantime has two vacant floors that are not being utilized. The

sprinklers are in, elevator shaft and the building with minor clean up, the first and second floors could be utilized. It would be a great place for a large conference room for meetings. In the past the town employees had used these floors. Doug Hatfield recommended the deed be reviewed. The library personnel and trustees should be consulted to see if they have plans to expand.

Bob Hassett during the round table discussed several important issues with the school and budgetary issues facing the school. Mr. Hassett noted we have hired a new middle school principle, Mark Peterson from Minnesota. Of critical importance is the US News Report in schools in New Hampshire placed our schools number forty-one out of eighty. Hillsborough was ahead of Kearvaig and Sunapee. Hopkinton was number one. The 21st grant was not approved. The grant was given to schools that had not been able to gain the grant in the past. The JV Football program was discussed that will be joining with Hillsboro/Deering. Of critical importance the drop out rate was zero for 2013.

Grant Writer: Laura Buono expressed the desire to seek out grant writers because they are not paid by the town but by the grant they are seeking. Laura will be seeking out grant writers from other communities and leads she has developed. This will be placed on June's

Discussion for tax free zones as a marketing strategy was briefly discussed and will be on the June agenda as a marketing strategy.

Adjournment 10:20 a.m. motion by Steve Venezia and second by Doug Hatfield

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Williams
May 22, 2013
Secretary for the Economic Development Center