

Economic Development Minutes

August 25, 2016

Approved 9/22/2016

Meeting was called to order at 9:03am

In attendance:

Steve Venezia, Robyn Payson, Jack Wells, Laura Buono, Laurel Boivin, Jane Williams, Suzie White, Bob Hassett

Guest: Bev Mason Area Director USDA RD, Molly Keller, Business Resource Specialist NH Dept of Resources and ED and Mike Tardiff .

Minutes of the July meeting was accepted as presented 1st Suzie White 2nd Laurel Boivin

Mike Tardif – EDC Chapter

1. Summarize where are.
2. How to Fund the projects

Bev Mason introduced herself and gave a brief overview of the USDA RD – the cover 3 areas, housing, Business and Community Facilities.

Community Grants are limited by combined loan eligibility – Community Center, Water Sewer Projects,

Bev Mason Area Director USDA Rural Development thought that Hillsborough may qualify for some USDA grants focused on down town revitalization, the development of a community center and expansion of the existing sewer system.

Molly Keller, Resource Specialist NH Dept of Resources and Economic Development discussed establishing an Economic Redevelopment Zone that would be in concert with the designated 79E redevelopment area.

Ms. Keller works closely with municipalities, Chambers of Commerce, local businesses and listens to ideas and connects them with resources. She has access to a online program that does research for resources and has up to 90 sources for help.

She explained ERZ (economic redevelopment Zones) up to an 825K tax Credit

Steps to achieve tax credit

1. Identify zone
2. Discuss in committee
3. Market ERZ as a tool to bring business and jobs.

Transportation Alternative Grant Application

The town is applying for a Transportation Alternatives Grant for the purposes of building sidewalks connecting the center of down town (Bridge Street.) to Shaw's Supermarket. Mike Vignale will be meeting with Robyn Payson and Dean Williams (CNHRPC) to develop a scope for the project.

The process is very competitive with 4.5 million dollars available from DOT for project reimbursement and approximately 46 applications submitted by other municipalities.

Planning Director Report

Robyn reviewed the Zoning Amendments that were being developed For Town Meeting 2017.

Weatherstone Crossing is moving along well and a development agreement with Water/Sewer is in the works.

The Woods Woolen Mill project is moving forward and preparations are being made for further assessments on the site and plans for clean up and re-development.

There was discussion about the need for the public to be informed about what the EDC is working on. Having an overall media coordinator was discussed.

There was a motion to appoint Janet Byron as Media Coordinator. Robyn will contact her to ask her if she is interested.

MOU – is moving along (Valley Bible Parking)

School Dept

Multi-million dollar energy project is finishing up – improved air quality and efficiency. H/S in compliance and M/S now using propane.

Respectfully Submitted

Jane Williams