

October 22, 2015

Present: Jack Wells, Jane Williams, Doug Hatfield, Russ Galpin, Alan U., and Robyn Payson, Laura Buono

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM

Minutes of September meeting we accepted by Jack Wells/Laura Buono

Scheduling of Holiday Meetings – 11/17/2015 and no meeting for December

Business Retention and Expansion:

3 yr process run by UNH Cooperative Ext. – cost is \$2500 – Run by Andre Garron

Timeframe: The BR&E program will take 2 to 3 years to complete (Year 1-Steps 1-2, Year 2-3-Step 3).

“This programs A healthy local economy and an improved business climate are the goals of the Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Visitation program. The program promotes job growth by helping communities identify the concerns and barriers to survival and growth facing local businesses. This approach focuses on existing businesses. Studies show that 40% to 80% of all new jobs are created by existing firms than by new business attraction. Furthermore, business attraction efforts are less likely to be successful if existing businesses are unhappy with the local business climate.” This would be for all members of the committee to learn and grow.

Budget items:

Money for signage for parking; Business Retention some from present year budget and remainder from next budget?; Banner for the central business district; Flags

Hometown Video: Jane Williams to follow up with the school for maybe a video contest. (Update: Contacted Bob Hasset) – possible gift card for a prize?

Civic Plus: Nov 10<sup>th</sup> training – 3 hr commitment – Jane volunteered

Planning Director:

Weatherstone Crossing – EPA is working through the approval process – DRED is good and DES is good with the project, once EPA is approved – he can move forward.

Respectfully Submitted

Jane Williams