

TOWN OF UNITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

LOCATION: TOWN OFFICE UNITY, MAINE

MEMBERS PRESENT: GAIL CHASE, TONY AVILA, LUCIA PICARD, CHIA MURDOCK, MARY LEAMING, CHRIS LOBLEY, EMILY NEWELL, JANE PINNETTE, DON NEWELL, MIKE GOLD, MARY ANN HAYES, LORI GRANT

GUESTS: ANDREW LOBLEY, PASCAL CARTER, MATT HARMON, BLAINE PARSONS

6:30pm Don Newell is nominated & appointed to lead the meeting

Agenda: Review agenda, elect officers, determine length of terms, discuss 2016 budget requests, review and expand to do list

Motion to appoint leadership is discussed.

Nominated & appointed:

Chair: Don Newell

Co-Chair: Mary Leaming

Secretary: Lori Grant

Co-Secretary: Jane Pinnette

Discussion regarding terms for those appointed to be temporary as the committee is new. Motion to have positions for a 2 month trial, seconded and carried unanimously.

At the end of two month period we will discuss and appoint for 1 year & 2 year positions.

2016 Budget Request

Blaine Parsons asked if any funding could be made available for the UVFD Fishing Derby, which was coming up soon. Committee members all agreed this was good Unity promotion and should meet TIF guidelines but committee needed to set up a protocol for funding and time was likely too short. Will be ready for next year.

\$10k to Truck fund for UVFD, Emily would like to increase to \$15000.

Gail said that the calculation for how much money is spent on fire apparatus needs to be based on how much the need for apparatus is necessitated by the district.

Spread sheet was passed out showing historical TIF fund distribution

Lodging marketability study discussed. Question regarding Unity College previously committing \$2000 to the study, may have already done their own study. Mary will find out via her Unity College liason.

Emily stated the appropriations need to be in the town warrant by thursday.

Discussed possibility to hire Sam to do some work, and find out what she expects timewise.

Discussion regarding hiring KVCOG or a consultant.

Gail suggested discussing with Rosie at KVCOG and not enter into a contract.

Expenses suggested: \$1000 to advertise Unity Festival, Lucia stated can not use TIF funds to advertise. Gail will check over the legal use. \$5000 suggested for branding/marketing.

Gail advised any groups receiving funds from TIF should report back to the group with what they spent it on.

Appropriations:

\$10k General economic marketing

\$5k TIF administration

\$10k UVFD Truck fund

\$600 for Traffic calming/safety with neckdowns

Gail advised need a % or formula to justify amount to truck fund.

Emily advised the UFD is trying to solve the problem, and to await more information.

Chris suggested Noreen agreed with \$10k/ year, every year, keep it going, and he will confirm with Noreen.

Motion for official meeting schedule to be 1st & 3rd Mondays at 6:00. Seconded and carried.

Next meeting Monday, March 7th 6pm - 7:30pm

Meeting closed 8:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Lori Grant