

EDC Meeting Minutes June 6, 2016

Unity Town Office

In Attendance: Emily Newell, Mary Leaming, Lucia Picard, Clem Blakney, Tony Avila, Chris Rossignol, MaryAnn Hayes, Gail Chase ~Guest Penny Sampson

6:00pm meeting called to order

Don Newell –Committee Chair, submitted his written notice of resignation from the committee to the select board earlier this week– committee voted appoint Mary Leaming (formerly vice chair) to take his place

Secretary and Alternate Secretary Lori Grant and Jane Stevens Pinette respectively, are on temporary hiatus -committee votes to approve Lucia Picard as secretary

- Committee votes to amend summer meeting schedule –upcoming meetings will be held June 20, July 18, August 15

General follow up discussion about survey results- rural development “What is Economic Development?” - Generally defined as money coming into a community

How do the survey results impact our action items?

Many survey respondents questioned what TIF funds could be used for (this information is available at Town Office and was provided at earlier TIF informational meetings)

Immediate needs that are approved by TIF guidelines:

- Business advertising (development of brochure/map for Unity businesses)
- Town Website: TIF money had previously been allocated and voter approved for the purpose of developing a searchable business directory on the town website
- TIF Funds can be used to pay Town Clerk additional hours apart from her normal office schedule to finish developing the Town Website
- Developing revolving loan/ tiered financial plan to assist

Action items:

- Chris & Gail will draft a finance plan
- Clem will get budget numbers and distribution plan from UBX on cost for design, printing and distribution of business map/brochure- will also create a UBX bank account -as EDC does not feel comfortable writing a check to a personal or specific business

Upon receipt of budget and distribution plan, Committee members voted to appropriate TIF funds for the map/brochure project - 50% up to a max amount of \$5000.00- member vote 5 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain

The one no vote was simply due to wanting to see the budget numbers first, 2 abstains were due to personal business involvement.

- Mary Ann, Mary, Tony, Clem & Emily will follow up with businesses that indicated on the survey that they would like follow up discussion

Don, though no longer a member of the EDC, wishes to continue his communication with the Unity College president in regards to the lodging development in Unity – he is certainly free to do this on his own account and the committee would be appreciative if he would share any pertinent information with the committee. Emily will relay this information to him.

Next Meeting June 20th

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lucia Picard