

Town of Chesterfield Economic Development Committee

MINUTES July 9, 2015

Attendees

Bob Brockmann co-chair, Jon Starbuck, Don Brehm, Mike Reed

Absent: Dutch Walsh co-chair, Judy Hueber, and Jon McKeon Selectmen's Rep.

Also in attendance: Carol Pelczarski and Town Administrator Rick Carrier

Bob called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

The minutes of June 18th were reviewed and approved as written.

Bob provided an overview of the recent planning board meeting he attended on Area 51 fireworks store. The application was mostly small changes in building sizes and alignments.

The committee agreed that the focus of this meeting was on the upcoming business gathering meeting.

Jon S reiterated his discussion from last meeting on his conversation with Sue Newcomer. Jon s had talked with representatives of Peoples Bank about sponsoring this gathering and they were willing to sponsor this event. The committee is expecting 25 +/- people, a timeframe of 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday night. The committee will be looking at the week of September 20th, aiming for Thursday September 24th.

The committee discussed the program for the evening. The committee decided the host, Peoples Bank will speak about their services for businesses, followed by the committee talking about what the committee can do to help businesses with, then a guest speaker. Resident Rich Grogan will be invited. It was noted he now works in Durham and that perhaps his replacement in Keene would be willing to speak at the gathering. There will be time for attendees to mingle followed by a raffle at the end of the gathering. Local businesses (the Porch, Chesterfield Inn and Enchanted Bakery) will be approached to see if they would be willing to provide hors d'oeuvres and other businesses contacted to see if they would be willing to provide a raffle prize. It was noted that it would be best if town funds were not used to provide alcohol.

It was decided that nametags would be appropriate to help people get to know one another.

A draft letter/invitation will need to be written for committee approval. Jon S will contact Dutch to work on that. Items for the invitation would be who the committee is, the committee's interest to get business people together, an outline of the gathering. Mike noted that his experience was that an RSVP would not be successful at this time. The committee will follow up with phone calls and emails to businesses just prior to the gathering to gauge interest in attending. The invitation will have contact information for co-chairs Bob Brockmann and Dutch Walsh should there be any questions.

The next meeting of the EDC will be Thursday, August 20th @ 6:30 pm.

Rick noted the Board of Selectmen approved the committee's request to develop a business listing on the town's website.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM

Submitted by:
Rick Carrier