

# Town of Chesterfield Economic Development Committee

## MINUTES February 18, 2016

### Attendees

Jon Starbuck, chair, Bob Brockmann, Don Brehm, Judy Hueber. Jon McKeon Selectmen's Rep

Absent: Mike Reed, Blake Amacker

Also in attendance: Town Administrator Rick Carrier, Selectman Brad Roscoe, Carol Miller (NH DRED), Nancy Brooks & Bo Foard

Jon S called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Jon S introduced Nancy Brooks & Bo Foard as attendees to the previous EDC business meet & greet forum. They were asked for their feedback on their experience at the forum. Nancy stated it was fun. There was a great networking opportunity. Bo stated it was a nice event. He noted it was interesting to see businesses from town that he did not know existed.

Brad Roscoe and Carol Miller joined the meeting at 6:45 pm. Carol Miller introduced herself as the Director of Broadband Technology for the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED). Brad informed the committee of 2 warrant articles being presented at town meeting to perform studies on what broadband is in place, and what options might be available for the future. Brad noted the FCC classifies broadband 25 Mb service and broadband access is an economic driver, both for businesses looking to locate in Chesterfield and for homeowners who telecommute and looking to sell their homes. Carol noted that there may be grant monies available for feasibility studies in the future. Both Judy and Bo noted the topic of broadband would be a great subject for a future meet & greet forum.

Nancy, Bo, Brad and Carol left the meeting.

The committee reviewed the minutes of January 21<sup>st</sup> and approved them as written.

Jon S asked if Blake was still interested in being on the committee, as he has not made a meeting since the one he attended a few months back. Jon M will call Blake and gauge his interest.

Jon S wanted to finalize plans for the March 24<sup>th</sup> meet & greet forum. Don will contact Mary Ann Kristiansen from the Hannah Grimes Center to speak at the forum. The committee will send out email invitations to businesses. The committee will meet again on March 17<sup>th</sup> to finalize arrangements for the forum. It was decided to have one prize for a drawing. Judy will donate a gift certificate for a dinner at the Chesterfield Inn. Bob will approach Bank Thai about featuring his Thai food at the forum. Jon S will get with Paul Saba to see if he will donate drinks. The request will be based on the amount of drinks; wine, beer and bottled water consumed at the first forum.

Bob noted he had a box of items from the last forum, which includes plates, cups, utensils, etc. He will review what he has in the box and report back. Jon S will talk with Mike Reed about the cost of doing a postcard invitation mailing to the 160+/- businesses.

Jon S asked the committee what they want to accomplish in 2016. Jon S pointed out there are 8 points on the charge provided by the Selectboard. Jon S will reach out to DRED to invite a Business Recruitment Specialist to the next EDC meeting. Jon M will look for a specialist to speak to the town regulatory process and how to make it more user friendly.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Submitted by: Rick Carrier