

Economic Development Committee
May 6, 2021 - Final

Present: Ron Rzasa (Chair), Kelli Hanzalik (BOS Representative), Robert Korb, & Julianna Dodson

Absent: Faith Mba & John Pieper

Guests: Jeff Scott

Meeting called to order: 5:06PM via Zoom.

COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Board is authorized to meet electronically, etc.

Presiding: Ron Rzasa

Secretary Report:

Minutes were unanimously approved for the April 15th & April 22nd meeting
Both date minutes had to be approved because the April 15th meeting was suspended and thus continued on April 22nd.

Old Business

1. **Copper Cannon Land Consultant:** Tabled
2. **Brownfield Sights Issue:** The committee discussed how involved, if at all, they should become in the Spofford General Store and Electrosonics sites. Jeff Scott noted that the Spofford General Store is up to date in taxes. He was going to investigate whether or not the owners were interested in selling it. The Electrosonics property has been abandoned. But the town is reluctant to seize it because of the long-term liability. From Julianna's research, she believes after reviewing what the DES recommends as the next steps in remediation, a lawyer should be contacted about the liability issue.
 - a. Several individuals in town have spent a lot of time investigating this problem. One approach could be to get them together so they can share their research in a casual conversation. Presently the EDC doesn't have the manpower or money to take on such a large project.
 - b. The BOS needs to have input into whether the EDC should get involved and if so, to what extent.
3. **Business Mixer July 22nd:** The next step is promotional material. Katie Chase has been asked to connect with Copper Cannon's marketing department. Save the Date Postcards can be produced by Gem Graphics. Although this is for businesses, the general public will not be turned away.
4. **Marsh House:** The BOS has narrowed it down to one potential buyer. They are in the process of negotiating a Letter of Intent. However, this will require a Change in Use.
5. **Thomas Property Availability:** Tabled
6. **Spofford Golf Course:** Tabled
7. **Peoples Bank July Table:** Rob has agreed to take the lead with this project. Beside explaining EDC role in town and contact information, the table should promote local businesses without showing favoritism. This can be done by promoting the EDC website's business listings URL and providing a QR code for them. SWRCP, Hannah Grimes, and a need for new members should be promoted. The Home Business flow chart could be simplified and handed out. The Business Mixer could be promoted.

8. **Rules of Procedure:** The document was finalized. Julianna motioned/Rob second: "Accept the Rules of Procedure as written and to move them along to the BOS." This was unanimously approved. Kelli was asked to have it placed on the BOS agenda.
9. **Hacking During the Meeting:** Because this is a public meeting, admittance cannot be restricted. If someone becomes disruptive, they can be muted or removed.
10. **Business Listing Calls:** Rob sent to the committee a Flow Chart for Home Based businesses based on Todd Horner's recommendations. At a later date, a non-business chart can be made. He also sent along the survey questions and the business listings he called. Once these interviews are completed, common problems and issues can be determined. Because of the lengthy delay in this activity, some members have lost their listings to call. Ron will resent that list.

New Business:

1. **Attendance:** It was recommended that if they have not already done so, on the morning of the meeting, all members contact the secretary with their availability. This will assure a more efficient way to establish a quorum and determine if the meeting can proceed.

Adjourned

Rob moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm; Julianna seconded; Unanimously passed.

Next Meeting
Thursday, May 20, 2021
5Pm
Via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted by,
Donna Roscoe, Secretary
May 6, 2021