



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Date: Wednesday, January 26, 2022
Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location: Teleconference/Virtual Meeting
Address: 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468
Contact: (802) 893-6655
Website: www.miltonvt.gov

MINUTES

Members Present: Lou Mossey, Community Member; Lindsey Ruhl; Community Member; Jenna Tucker, Director of Recreation; Richard DeSouza, Business Member; Michael Joseph, Business Member; Anthony Micklus, Business Member; Doug Johnson, community member

Members Absent: Don Turner, Jr., Town Manager/Chair; Amy Rex, Superintendent of Schools; June Mary Plankey, Business Member; Cymone Haiju, Director of Planning & Development Review; Robert Lombard, Community Member

Others Present: None.

1. Call to Order

J. Tucker called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2. Agenda Review

Added staff updates.

3. Public Forum

New Milton resident Doug Johnson attended the meeting to get an idea of what economic development plans are in the works for Milton.

4. Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2021

Motion made by T. Micklus Joseph to approve the Minutes of December 22, 2021 with a second by M. Joseph. Motion Approved.

5. ARPA Update

J. Tucker, Director of Recreation

Progress is underway.

6. Guide to the Best of Milton" Update

R. DeSouza, Business Member

DeSouza will connect with Erik Johnson from Local Brew Digital Small Business Marketing to gather more information on level of business interest and clarify price. EDC would like to stick to goal of spring 2022.

7. "Milton on the Move" Discussion

J. Tucker, Director of Recreation

Three Task Forces were created as a result of Milton on the Move. Milton community members are led by task force Chairs with support from Vermont Council on Rural Development. VCRD has yet to produce report.

a. *Support local business*

Guide to Best Milton was discussed and supported in this Task Force.

b. *Creation of a downtown*

Businesses are interested in building in the Hourglass.

c. *Development of Rec and Community Center*

J. Tucker and L. Ruhl are on this task force.

M. Joseph, Business member

Requested that the Town send emails or post on website/social media with regular updates on the task forces. Make the meeting dates/times known to more than just those on the task force. Regular task force updates should be in the Milton Independent and/or by email from VCRD. Important to keep the momentum going.

EDC members requested clarification:

a. When do we receive the report from VCRD?

b. Who are the chairs for the three task forces?

8. Staff Updates

Jenna Tucker, Director of Recreation

Winter festival is in mid-February. Food passport is challenging this year as half the eateries as last year are participating. Considering expanding passport to other businesses. EDC proposed a passport similar to how downtown St. Albans did it. Cardboard sled competition is back! Milton ice skating rink is open.

Burger King is no longer seeking to put a restaurant in Milton. A new animal pharmacy is moving into Catamount business space. Two Redtop apartments will be torn down and new apartments built in place with no commercial capacity.

9. Discussion: Goals for EDC 2022

Jenna Tucker, Director of Recreation

Brainstorm goals for 2022 to set at the next meeting. Confirmed remaining EDC budget for FY22 and proposed budget for FY23. Members will come to next meeting with goals in mind.

Brainstorm: EV Station, Business Guide, seek monetary investment for EDC.

10. Other Updates

M. Joseph, Business Member

The school budget was balanced for 0% tax increase, but following state methods for calculations, the per-pupil spending is increasing.

Anthony Micklus, Business Member

Regional Planning Commission is looking to hire someone to focus on equity and inclusion.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by A. Micklus to adjourn the meeting with a second by M. Joseph. Motion Approved.

J. Tucker adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lindsey Ruhl

APPROVED MINUTES:



Don Turner, Jr., Chair

Date: 3/23/22

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this 24th day of March, 2022.



Town Clerk