

Economic Committee

July 10, 2023, 7 pm

Fitzwilliam Town Hall

Present: Beth Lorenz, Skip Hagstrom, Jim Millar, Jason Newcomb, Kerry O'Neill, Chelley Tighe, Ken Abbott, Ryan Cashman & Brian Doerpholz, Selectman's Representative

Absent: Isaac Morse

Guests: Brandon O'Neill

Beth opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

Minutes: Skip made a motion to accept the minutes from May 31, 2023, with a second by Chelley. **All voted in favor (8-0-0)**

Business Listing: Ryan is working to get this into a pamphlet form. He is asking everyone to go through their list to see who is still in business or not, and inquire if they want to be included in the pamphlet. Please send all updates to Ryan.

Sign: Brandon O'Neill stated he needs size and dimensions for the sign. Skip stated he will measure the New Ipswich sign while he is there. When prompted for additional costs, Brandon stated the cabinet costs are approximately \$5000 and the double sided corian surface about= \$1000. Skip added that instead of using 10' posts, use sonotubes to anchor the posts and not sink the posts into the ground. Brandon inquired about a logo. Brian indicated that it would need to go before the Historic District. Kerry will send diagrams prior to the next HDC meeting. Brian stated the next conversation will be with the property owners to determine the cost of the lease. Once the exact size and location is determined, he will bring that before the property owners. Jason will check into any tax incentives that may be available for the property owner. Skip wants to make sure the lease states that brush will be cleared. Brian added the lease needs a number of years. Brandon offered to do a mock-up of the sign for visual purposes.

Website: Beth asked Chelley to send a Farmer's market photo to Lori Nolan to update the website.

Business Fair: Beth stated she attended a Chamber Breakfast and mentioned grants for manufacturing training. She will connect at a future meeting. May 2024 looks promising in conjunction with the Farmer's Market. The public can meet the businesses, especially the home businesses. The Town could provide free food. Beth will start planning in November with Jason's help.

Next meeting: Aug 7, 2023, 7pm at the Town Hall

With all items on the agenda being met and nothing further to discuss, Jason made a motion to adjourn with a second by Chelley. **All voted in favor (8-0-0)**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Minutes taken by Marion Wheeler