

## FITZWILLIAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE- April 1, 2024

**Present:** Beth Lorenz, Skip Hagstrom, Jason Newcomb, Isaac Morse, Jim Millar, Ryan Cashman, Kerry O'Neill, Ken Abbott & Chelley Tighe

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Karen Beitler & Suzanne Gray

**Minutes:** Jim made a motion to accept the minutes of Mar 4, 2024 as written with a second by Ryan. All voted in favor (9-0-0).

MASTER PLAN UPDATE: **Suzanne Gray**

- Part 1 will be discussed at the next meeting

NEW SELECTMAN:

- Tom Rothermel appointed March 12, 2024
- Skip will send an invite to Tom for the next meeting (needing a selectman's representative)

WELCOME WAGON: **Kerry O'Neill**

- Not much to report at this time as they are still seeking new residents

BUSINESS FAIR: **Ken Abbott**

- Potential date to coincide with the FFM: Oct 5
- Coordinate with Barbara Young & Karen Beitler by July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Chelley volunteered to man the EDC table at the FFM

TOWN SIGN: **Beth Lorenz**

- Suzanne Gray explained the sign ordinance (chapter 127; article 7) and that the regulations are voted on at Town Meeting
- Maximum size is 32 sf excluding the legs
- Special exception can be brought before the ZBA
- Municipalities may be exempt (see Lori Nolan for clarification)
- Funding has been approved
- Location still needs to be approved through the DOT; alternate location closer to Monadnock Firearms-meet with plaza owner Angelo & DOT
- No lighting is planned
- Insurance should be under the Town's property (check with Debbie Favreau)
- Possible vandalism concerns (changing the letters)
- No public notice needs as it was approved at Town meeting
- Seek BOS approval

NETWORKING PARTY: **Beth Lorenz**

- May 16, 2024 Thursday at Carousel Grill 5:30
- Skip will contact Carousel Grill to reserve and get menu and charges
- Ryan to complete the invite this week using Jason's draft of the logo for the invitation
- Ryan will provide an up-to-date revised business listing for the calls (members will each get a section)
- Beth will get the details to Marion for advertising in the Newsletter

LOGO: **Jason Newcomb**

- Seeking photos of the Town Hall steeple
- Community Church may have some; Chelley to contact Minister, Susan Clinkenbeard
- Isaac will ask Lori Nolan to man the website with updated pictures

BUSINESS DIRECTORY: **Ryan Cashman**

- Ryan has the draft of 32 confirmed businesses and 52 who have not yet responded
- Ryan will provide a list of what he has to date to begin calling for the networking party
- Will be checking the email weekly for additional responses
- Will have a final list ready to pass out at the first Farmer's Market (May 18<sup>th</sup>)

FANTASY FAIRE: **Isaac Morse, Karen Beitler**

- Potentially called the Fitzwilliam Historic Heritage Day to support the Blake House
- Oct 5, 2024 9am-5pm
- Activities of an historical nature done by local businesses and/or organizations
- Involve Emerson School & the Fitzwilliam Library
- Local Businesses to set up on Town Hall lawn or inside meeting room (may not be enough room on the common)
- EDC table to provide literature of local businesses; raffle, etc. (Chelley to man)
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NEXT MEETING: May 6, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion to adjourn made by Isaac with a second by Jason. All voted in favor (9-0-0)**

Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm

*Minutes taken by Marion Wheeler*