

Fitzwilliam Economic Committee

August 30th 2016- Library (Special date and location because Labor Day was first Monday of month)
Meeting began at 7pm.

In attendance: Bradley Miller, Suzanne Gray, Steve Reinhart, and Chelley Tighe Absent Skip Hagstrom;
Clare Rose Howard

Minutes of August 3rd meeting approved unanimous vote.

Next Quarterly Business Meeting “Connect, Create & Collaborate”.

The next “Connect, Create & Collaborate”. event is scheduled for September 12, 2016 at 6pm, located on the Fitzwilliam village green (rain location Covey House). We all agreed to arrive at 5:30 to get tables set up for biz cards and have a few chairs.

The content of the meeting will be places to gather in Fitzwilliam for meetings and events. We want to encourage business owners to keep business local.

Chris Holman agreed to review areas in town that are town owned or non-profits. Chelley and Clare will talk about their locations and also about other commercial locations around town. We will each have a list of Fitz business owners to contact and invite. Suzanne will divide up the biz owner list and distribute. Personal invites more people are likely to attend. We’ll have time for networking and for giving 30 second elevator pitch. Getting to know what other business owners do is key to helping our community thrive.

Other topics

-Susan Massin is working on the issue of broadband access with Fairpoint. This remains an issue for many in Fitzwilliam, and she has asked the Board of Selectmen for help in contacting Fairpoint to address this. Board of Selectmen asked Susan to put together a group to work on this. Susan has asked for volunteers. Susan may do a survey of business owners for their input. She will be attending one of our future meetings to talk more about this.

-Complete Streets. Dorothy Zug met with the Board of Selectmen to provide an update. Dorothy is waiting to hear back from SW Regional Planning regarding the grant to study if Complete Streets would be viable in Fitzwilliam. The Board of Selectmen asked that all areas of town be considered, including the Depot, State Line, Bowkerville and village common. Steve Reinhart and Suzanne Gray have told Dorothy they would be interested in working on this.

-New business in town. Xtreme Auto Body and Collision Repair. It’s located on Rt 12 North in the former Mayer Molding building. Auto body work and specialty vehicles.

Adjourned 7:30 PM

Minutes taken by Suzanne Gray

people to call and

ing and have an icebreaker planned. An engaging guessing game whereby a business owner is matched with an interesting fact about itself could be the first item on the agenda for the guests. A few questions would be asked on the invitation with the hopes they would respond via the email account. Suggestions included: the funniest thing that ever happened to you in your business, the most interesting person you've ever met in your business, and more seriously, how can Fitzwilliam help you succeed in your business. Prizes could be awarded. The thought is to have speakers next and then allow time for networking. Brad suggested that it be explained what networking is all about.

Fall CCC

The Fall *'Connect, Create & Collaborate'* event is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2016. Brad will check on locating it at Crossroads. The Fitzwilliam Library was also suggested. Guest speakers could be Melanie Patterson from the Small Business Development Center and/or Denise Meadows from Hannah Grimes. Denise has knowledge and experience in both the marketplace and the entrepreneurial side of Hannah Grimes. Clare suggested local artisans could be targeted.

Fitz Food Fest

Nancy Woodward from the Library was invited to this meeting but she was unable to attend. She informed the committee that she has already spoken with Tracie and Lisa about the festival. It is still undetermined as to when this activity will take place. The intent of this event is to bring awareness to all that the Fitzwilliam Library has to offer.

Bard Building

There is an interested buyer from MA who has a woodworking type of business. That is all that is known at this time.

Business Directory Updates

Updates will be submitted to Coni every 6 months, sooner if necessary, in preparation of the next printing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2016. Meeting notes were taken by Marion Wheeler.