

## Fitzwilliam Economic Committee

Aug 7, 2017: Depot Train Station

Meeting began at 7 pm.

**The goals of the Economic Committee:** to get businesses together to network and pool resources, build relationships among business owners, promote new members, and to revitalize Fitzwilliam.

**In attendance:** Chelley Tighe, Skip Hagstrom, Steve Reinhart, & Suzanne Gray

**Absent:** Clare Rose-Howard, Mary Belle Isle, & Adrianna Stefanco

**Minutes:** The minutes of July 10, 2017 were approved.

*Chelley Tighe stepped in to facilitate this meeting in Adrianna's absence.*

**Updating town website:** Chelley reported from Adrianna that she has invited Debbie Favreau to come to one of our meetings to discuss what she can provide in the way of making changes to the Ec Comm link on the town website. Debbie has agreed to be put onto our September agenda.

**Change for next meeting:** The first Monday of September falls on Labor Day. Since Debbie will be joining the next meeting, and to accommodate her schedule, the members decided Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> would work best. Chelley will get this change to the Newsletter for their front page calendar.

**Richmond 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bizarre:** Chelley said she needed more information on this before holding a discussion with the members. She will check back with Adrianna.

**Next CCC:** At the last meeting, the members decided to hold the next CCC on Nov 13th. The event will be held at the Depot Train Station, 7pm-8:30pm with the same format as the last event having coffee and potluck desserts. The theme of this event will be "Advertising Your Business". Suzanne felt, that in addition to consulting with Kitty Doty of the Visiting Nurses about food donations, we invite her to attend the event. Steve suggested we also hold a winter clothing drive and donate the cold weather gear to the Helping Hand in Troy. Tentative guest speakers will be Darryl Meattley and John Sepe. Suzanne reminded everyone that the guest speakers should be allotted a set amount of time to speak. Suzanne & Steve then gave some suggestions on how to keep them on topic should they stray.

**Member Recruitment:** Chelley asked everyone to keep in mind that we are looking for new members and Skip said he mentions it to the Fitzwilliam people he comes across. The criteria to be a member is just living in town; being a business owner is not a requirement. If you live outside of town and own a business, you can become an alternate member. Steve suggested asking Charlie Massin and Skip felt Ron Berg would be a great addition to the committee.

**Post Cards:** Chelley received a price on the postcards, \$73.00 for 250. Chelley asked about the process of requesting money and Suzanne explained the Ec Comm budget.

**Processes to start up a business:** Suzanne shared that she and Sandra Gillis have started working on this. They have created a rough draft in flow chart form. She believes that they will not need any assistance on this project, that the two of them should be able to complete it. Steve concurs.

**Brochure Distribution:** Chelley mentioned she has supplied members of the Monadnock Travel Council with the brochures and they will be at various locations throughout the Monadnock Region. She also explained the Granite State Ambassadors. These are NH residents that, with training, work at the state's rest areas, airports, and other tourist spots, promoting NH. They will be manning the booths at the NH Building at the Big E in Springfield MA. Chelley has coordinated with them to have on hand our Fitzwilliam Business Brochure which will be available for those attending this huge annual event.

Chelley announced that she entertained a bus tour last week and along with the boost in business at the Inn, it also brought many patrons to The Covey House and Bloomin' Antiques.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next meeting: September 12, 2017

*Minutes taken by Marion Wheeler*

