

## **Fitzwilliam Economic Committee**

Nov 7, 2016- Lower Town Hall Meeting Room

Meeting began at 7pm.

**In attendance:** Bradley Miller, Chelley Tighe, Clare Rose-Howard, Skip Hagstrom, Steve Reinhart and Suzanne Gray.

**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.

Approved: meeting minutes Oct 3, 2016

**Frank Bequaert:** Frank attended the meeting to speak to the members about TAP, Transportation Alternatives Program. This is a plan to provide safer roads for pedestrians and bicyclists. There is grant money available and Frank explained the process by which it could be acquired. It is a lengthy process, he said. He mentioned that the DOT and the SWRPC are supportive and cooperative of this program.

**New Business in town:** AARD is an online book dealer specializing in rare and out of print books. Also new in town are two artists.

**Winter CCC:** While discussing the next CCC event, Steve brought up the fact that the link to the Economic Committee on the town website needs updating. The site makes no mention of the mission statement. Skip provided a copy of the mission statement that he shared with the members. It was agreed upon that the statement needed updating and that the revision should be available on the town website. Suzanne would like to see a subgroup formed to work on this. It is important that everyone is on the same page. Concerning the Winter CCC, Brad felt we should work more on including the businesses that have participated in past CCC events instead of trying to recruit new attendees to these events. Perhaps the committee could highlight the new businesses in town as the *guest of honor*. Clare talked about having a 1 year, 5 year and 10 year plan. It was decided that the committee meet again on Nov 21, 2016 for a brainstorming session. At this next meeting, the members will bring forth ideas about revising the mission statement and how best to make known the intent of the Economic Committee. Also ideas about how to improve attendance at the CCC events will be discussed. Some ideas at this point involve charging a small fee to attend and perhaps donating the monies to a scholarship fund for a local student. The next CCC event is tentatively scheduled for Feb 6, 2017 and Chelley has graciously offered to host the event at the Fitzwilliam Inn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

*Minutes taken by Marion Wheeler*

