

Bristol Economic Development Committee

January 17, 2018

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Bill Dowey, Bruce Dorner, Vincent Paul Migliore, Carolyn Shulman, Les Dion (late arrival), Paul Bemis (Visitor)

Members Absent: Janet Cavanagh, Rick Alpers.

Others Present: None

Chairman Bill Dowey called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Meeting Minutes:

Bill Dowey asked Paul Bemis if he had been sworn in yet. Paul Bemis stated he had not. Bill Dowey said he had not received minutes for approval, so will the committee be willing to hold off until the next meeting for the approval of the minutes. Bruce Dorner motioned to wait until the next meeting, seconded by Carolyn Shulman the vote was **4 in favor – 0 opposed** the motion passed.

Cell/Broadband:

Bill Dowey stated he would like to talk about what we might achieve in the coming year mainly what you people would like to do. I will be involved with the infrastructure projects mainly with Verizon because slow progress is being made and we will need to renegotiate with them. I will be meeting with Carol Miller next week in Concord to discuss this and try and get some insight, the backhaul needs to go from Bristol to Ashland to get on the grid which is 9 miles at a cost of \$35,000 per mile. We need to have real numbers here or other approaches as this is quite an expense for a municipality. Bruce Dorner asked if there were any federal funds for this, and did they not realize the costs and why did it change. Bill Dowey said he would find out more next week when he meets with Carol Miller stating that we may need a warrant article to accomplish this.

Bristol Falls Park:

Bill Dowey stated that they couldn't get under the bridge to do any of the reinforcing of the concrete work because of the cold weather. Unfortunately the work has been postponed until spring. There is a \$400,000.00 grant through EFLAP that we are in a good position to be a favored candidate. However the Army Corp of Engineers needs to be onboard and we do need to have an agreement in place with them in order to apply for the grant which comes out in May.

NH DOT:

Bill Dowey we had our Celebratory Bike Ride on West Shore Road and 22 people showed up it was a success and everyone commented on the great road surface. However now I have noticed that about every 40 yards the road has cracked all the way from the church to Hebron. We are not into the thaw yet and we have these cracks. Bruce Dorner asked if we should let our highway department be informed so they can let the state know. Bill Dowey said he would take pictures and get them to the select board and to Mark in highway department. Bruce Dorner said that DOT needed to be informed so there is something on record, the state contracted it out and they may say to fix it. Bill Dowey stated they are scheduled to do North Shore Road this next paving season if there is a fault somewhere and we can catch it they won't have to experience the same issue.

Fall Links Trail:

Bill Dowey stated that a meeting took place with 40 town planners and they were impressed with the improvements to Bristol. In order for Bristol to have tour busses stop here we would need to have coffee shops and toilets at every stop. We need to have nice rest areas so they will stop here. Paul Bemis suggested doing a perfect day in Bristol series like my wife Karen does with walking trails there would be a lot of perfect days we could put together with B&B's, profile falls, skating, hiking, bike trails, snowmobiling, marking out all the buildings of interest along the trails and ghost walks. Carolyn Shulman suggested that we also put a blog on the website. Paul Bemis said we could see if someone were interested in having a bike shop in the town center which would be a great idea but the bike trail needs to be approved. The Army Corp of engineers is working on a walking trail not a bike trail we need an all season use and someone with leverage. Les Dion suggested if the bridge were built wide enough for 2 snowmobiles we could have an all sports store and we could also have an annual magazine instead of a brochure. Bill Dowey said that we know that this will come to fruition eventually. I would like to see you people work on marketing and the other area is workforce development which is key to EDC activities. We could have 7 perfect days in this area, Paul could you get together with Les and have an outline for our next meeting. Les Dion also said that we would definitely need an information kiosk at the bike path. Bruce Dorner suggested moving the chamber information booth to the bike path would we need a budget line item for town meeting to move it or could we get Aubuchon or someone to donate a shed. Paul Bemis said that it would be good to have it at the mill stream. Les Dion also said that the Slim Baker Foundation is advertising for a director to get things in order for 20 hours a week to start. They want to build awareness of that beautiful area the trails are well marked now with so much potential. Mark from highway department has it on his schedule to be paved this year it could be part of a perfect day series. Bill Dowey asked Vincent Paul Migliore if he had anything that we need to be aware of coming up. Vincent Paul Migliore said he has been paying attention and trying to sort out everything

and I'm putting the effort in, there is just so much going on statewide "as I get more experienced I can do that". Les Dion how about Keno in

restaurants and establishments that meet the requirements. Bruce Dorner said if the businesses wanted it they would need to let the select board know. Vincent Paul Migliore stated that maybe the businesses not knowing enough and the requirements for the Keno may be holding them back. Les Dion suggested discussing Keno at the end of town meeting so the businesses were more aware. Paul Bemis how about recreational marijuana did the house pass it. Vincent Paul Migliore said yes but there are still no regulations yet, however I don't think the Governor or the senate will vote for it especially with all we have going on right now with the opioid drug crisis we don't need to legalize another alternative. It will probably be pulled back and slowed down because of the regulations. Bruce Dorner asked now that the governor has flip flopped with AT&T and Rivata how does that affect Bristol in dealing with communications for first responders. Bill Dowey said he would do a letter to John Stevens asking him to come to a meeting so we will know where Bristol is at and what level of service we can expect.

Public Comments:

None

Bill Dowey suggested closing the meeting. Bruce Dorner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Carolyn Shulman. The motion passed **5 in favor – 0 opposed.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Vogan