

Randolph Economic Development Council
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2016

EDC Members Present: Michael Tragner, Chair; Jason Aldous, Winston Sadoo, Julie Iffland
Members of the Public: Marjorie Ryerson, Eva Loomis

Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM.
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Chelsea Green Publishing

- The Council discussed ongoing efforts to support Chelsea Green Publishing's interest in the Mari Castle property in Randolph as a potential future home for its operations.
- Marjorie Ryerson reported on her recent meeting with Margo Baldwin, the owner of Chelsea Green Publishing.
 - Ms. Baldwin expressed her interest in Randolph as a location
 - Ms. Baldwin also expressed interest in potentially building a relationship with VTC around sustainability, a concept for which the incoming VTC administration has expressed enthusiasm
- Retrofitting the property for enhanced energy efficiency is key to making this move practical for Chelsea Green.
- The Council discussed various ways it can support this effort including engaging entities such as Efficiency Vermont.
- The Council will confirm that the property is zoned for commercial enterprises.
- There will be ongoing discussions with Chelsea Green to further assess their interest and commitment to moving forward.

New Members

- The Board reviewed and discussed two recent applications to serve on the Board and is awaiting appointment of new members by the Select Board.
- Another ad will be placed in the *Herald* soliciting interest in joining the Council.

Pocket Park Update

- The Council briefly discussed next steps regarding the proposed pocket park at the corner of Pleasant Street and Randolph Avenue.
- Design is in progress and concepts are scheduled to be ready by the end of September followed by a public meeting to review and discuss.

EDC Web Presence

- The Council discussed the need for an enhanced and more visible Web presence.
- Council member Aldous will follow up with the Town to discuss options and will present at the next Council meeting in October.

Enhancing Exit 4 Presence

- As one of its next identified initiatives, the Council discussed plans for enhancing the promotional presence at Exit 4 near The Barn and McDonald's.
- There is currently an outdated state way-finding kiosk that is no longer maintained and which is in pretty bad shape. There is also a small Chamber of Commerce presence next to the kiosk.
- Next steps include getting permission from the State of Vermont to update/replace the kiosk and initiating discussions with the Chamber of Commerce and adjoining business owners about plans for updating and enhancing the space.

There being no other business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.