



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Economic Development Council

Meeting Minutes January 7, 2019 5:15 pm

Members present: Peter Reed, Jay Hooper, Ken Cadow, Tom Ayers, Perry Armstrong, Winston Sadoo

Guests: Adolfo Bailon

1. Economic Development Position

Adolfo provided an update on the ED position recruitment effort. Ads have been placed in a variety of state and municipal publications and websites, and 2 applications have been received so far. Deadline is January 31, and Adolfo has assembled a small panel for interviews consisting of Trini Brassard, Perry Armstrong, Bob Haynes, Joan Goldstein, and one other state agency representative. We agreed to hold a special REDC meeting on February 1 to review the resumes and provide initial guidance to the panel.

2. R3 Progress

We briefly discussed the latest developments in R3, and agreed we should assist in providing direct feedback to the Select Board on any issues that require town consideration.

3. Business Development and Related Project Updates

- Some housing developers are exploring an apartment development for the Branchwood area
- Farr Hill project is progressing, awaiting Act 250 approvals but Perry is going ahead with the winter carnival event
- Hotel project is getting serious, with an initial franchise agreement for a Hampton Inn/restaurant/conference facility. Negotiations ongoing with Randolph Center for water requirements.
- Belmain's space under consideration for a combined retail and packaging business, and moving forward with GMEDC.
- Child care center discussions underway, potentially using the "chapel" building purchased by the town for a police station. Outreach has been made to schools, local child care providers, Gifford, and others, and a January 15th meeting is planned.
- Kiosk work is on hold for the winter, but Jay hopes to continue when weather permits.

4. Upcoming Town Events

The Winter Carnival is set for February 16th at Farr Hill, and Perry has been gathering sponsorships and planning a variety of events that day. Ken highlighted the June 1 Block Party being planned by the RUHS students, and they are doing a good job reaching out to a variety of town organizations to assist. Adolfo mentioned his idea of forming a town special events committee, to help coordinate the increasing number of events on the calendar.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Reed, Chair