



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Economic Development Council

Meeting Minutes February 4, 2019 5:15 pm

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

Guests: Adolfo Bailon

1. Economic Development Position

Adolfo updated us on the current status of the hiring process. 6 candidates came forward, narrowed to four for interviews, input received from RECD members on February 1. Interviews set for the upcoming week.

2. R3 Progress

We briefly discussed the latest developments in R3, including status of the SWOT analysis and new initiative to better understand the town process for new business related requests. Peter will arrange an initial meeting with Mardee Sanchez.

3. Council Structure and Future Coordination

We discussed the draft document presented by Peter Reed describing a new coordinating economic development organization to improve communication and efficiency. This group might potentially incorporate the current EDC and/or remove the new organization from town oversight. Some updates and comments were offered, and Peter will update and recirculate to the committee and other impacted groups.

4. Child Care Center

Building tour and discussions with area child care resources have happened. Finding someone qualified to run the facility is key, in addition to other staffing.

5. 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.

6. Road Reclass and Maintenance

CJ raised the issue of the recent reclass from 3 to 4 of several Randolph roads, and was concerned about the impact to area farms, of which there are several impacted. Several residents have filed the necessary formal appeal, but there was also a

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concern that the filing fees might be a financial hardship for some involved. Adolfo responded with a description of the whole process, which followed a lengthy procedure involving site visits, public hearings, safety information, and now appeals. There was some view that this change would drop the property values on those roads by 10-20% according to some realtors or former listers, but this was not borne out in a previous study by the Preservation Trust, which was cited by Adolfo. Clearly this is a complex situation, and CJ encouraged some sort of followup from the town directed at our local farmers, who are an important component of our area economy.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Reed, Chair