



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Economic Development Council

Meeting Minutes March 4, 2019 5:15 pm

Members present: Peter Reed, Tom Ayers, Perry Armstrong, Winston Sadoo
Guests: Adolfo Bailon

Topics discussed:

1. Economic Development Director

Joshua Jerome has been hired by the Town of Randolph for the Economic Development Director position, and will start work on March 11. We discussed ways of connecting him with the local constituents, including this committee, the R3 Downtown task force (next meeting 3/11), and the contemplated reconstituted economic development organization discussed below.

2. Road Issue

We revisited the concerns raised at the last meeting regarding Class 4 roads and potential impact on some local farms. Adolfo reiterated that, despite the concerns raised, that there had been very limited formal feedback from residents during the process.

3. Governor Scott Visit

The governor and representatives of his cabinet were in Randolph last week and we held a productive discussion on some of our local initiatives including R3, Belmains space, workforce development, housing, and property taxes. Adolfo commented that the opening up of the Northern Borders grants make this a potential funding source for some of the major infrastructure projects being contemplated by the town. The governor also visited the RASTA new space in town and heard about the recreation economy efforts in the area.

4. R3 Update

Peter provided a brief update on the R3 process, and highlighted the next meeting on March 11, and planned larger R3 celebration gathering set for late April.

5. Restructuring Options for EDC

We discussed the next steps for a more comprehensive economic development organization as previously presented by Peter. Next step is a planned group discussion including the EDC and other constituents, tentatively scheduled for April 8th.

6. Child Care Project

Perry reported that meetings have continued for planning a potential child care center, and have involved school representatives, Gifford staff, and some current child care providers.

7. Arts Collaboration

Tom discussed his interest in forming a stronger arts collaborative effort in Randolph, as many of the existing arts groups would likely benefit from a combined approach to funding, programming, marketing, and other cooperative efforts.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Reed, Chair