

Town of Chesterfield Economic Development Committee

MINUTES May 8, 2014

Attendees

Bob Brockmann co-chair, Dutch Walsh co-chair, Pam Walton, Mike Reed and Carol Pelczarski.

Also in attendance Town Administrator Rick Carrier, Rich Grogan

Bob called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Bob noted he has been in contact with Peter Fiorello, Director at Camp Spofford, and he would be willing to hand out or make available a brochure from the committee to adult campers. Dutch stated the development of a brochure should be a goal of the committee.

Dutch introduced Rich Grogan, Regional Manager of the NH Small Business Development Center out of Keene. Rich noted his workload is equally shared between business start-ups and existing businesses. Rich stated that the Committee should start with what the town's strengths are in helping businesses. Some strengths noted were pockets of high speed internet, access to Route 9 is a big asset along with proximity to Interstate 91. Quality of life in Chesterfield is big as well, with the abundance of natural resources, such as state parks. Access to capital investing is also important to businesses. Another important thing businesses are looking for is talented people. Chesterfield's close proximity to Keene State College and local community colleges in Keene and Brattleboro is an asset.

Rich stated an afterhours business gathering for business owners to make contacts would be beneficial. Some business owners, particularly start-ups, are unaware of the local resources available to them and a business gathering would provide contacts for both the business owners and the committee.

Bob and Dutch discussed the prior Master Plan questions and how this committee can contribute questions for the upcoming version of the Master Plan. Dutch inquired what the next few meeting agendas and action plan should be.

Rick suggested that the committee has been discussing both the web site and the Master Plan recently and wondered if the committee should focus a meeting to finalize what contribution the committee would like to have for the updated web site as well as finalizing the questions for the Master Plan Committee. Bob agreed that the next meeting should focus on these 2 items.

Next meeting will be Thursday, June 5th at 7:00 pm. Carol will check with Enchanted Bakery to see if they would be willing to host the meeting.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of March 27th and approved them as amended.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Submitted by:
Rick Carrier