



Economic Development Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2016 Hinesburg Town Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room – 7:00 PM

Present: Melissa Levy, Steve Gladstone, Walter Hausermann, Michael Bissonette

Absent: Andrew Frost, Matt Sayre, Wayne Maceyka

1. Call to Order
2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda
None
3. Review and Approve Minutes
Approved
4. Discuss RLF Marketing Progress and Next Steps
Marketing is proceeding. Print articles have been submitted and featured. A note on Front Porch Forum went out. Additional marketing includes:
 1. Post a more conversational post on Front Porch Forum.
 2. Post on the town Facebook page and Twitter account.
 3. Wayne will post on the Hinesburg Hub page.
 4. Walter will take brochures to the HBPA meeting and invite one or more EDC members to the next meeting. The next meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of the month, November 15.
 5. Steve will talk to Chris at the National Bank of Middlebury.
 6. Walter will talk to Jeanne at Merchants Bank.
 7. We need to post on physical bulletin boards.
 8. After the election, we should contact VT Digger and VT Business Magazine.
 9. Walter will give brochures to David Palmer.
 10. Steve already gave copies of the brochure to Alex. Perhaps we should share with Trevor.
 11. Someone should connect with Trish at Aubuchon's.
 12. We should try to get a mention of the launching of the RLF into Town Meeting presentations. We could possibly have a table with brochures.
 13. Election Day may be another day that we could have brochures out.

Legal documents still need to be reviewed by a lawyer.

Also, we discussed a discount on the application fee for the first six months, possibly 50% for applications received by May 2017. We should talk to Robin at ACEDC about this.

5. Discuss town plan and next steps

Everyone will review.

6. Discuss vacant space next steps

This will have to wait for Wayne. We should talk to Aaron about making space for a vacant space locator page.

7. Review open meeting law requirements.

We can postpone this until our next meeting.

8. Other Business/Community Input

We discussed the coworking space, which is a top priority for the committee. At our next meeting, we need to talk about how we can support this strategy.

9. Adjourn

8:00 PM

Commission's Top Priorities

1. Manage revolving loan fund.
2. Inventory of existing businesses and vacant commercial spaces.
3. Infrastructure planning.
4. Research the demand for and feasibility of a small business incubator space/co-working space.
5. Connect small and medium sized local business owners with technical assistance, training and financial assistance.
6. Share stories about Hinesburg's successes, clusters, and assets
7. Support the agricultural economy
 - a. Complete a community food assessment
 - b. Assist with Current Use
 - c. Encourage intelligent investment in farm, food and forest-based systems
 - d. Encourage development of local food based commercial businesses
 - e. Encourage the development of a nongovernmental Food Council.
8. Work with Renewable NRG to bring complementary companies to Hinesburg
9. Recreation/tourism – targeting and encouraging start-up of recreation related businesses. Promotion of trail systems.