



Minutes For The 5/21/18 Meeting

Present: Phil Villari, Joe Deighan, Misty Ryder, Matt Trahan, Joy Gagnon, Ash Fischbein

Regrets: Pat Jones

Meeting called to order at 6:05.

Ash motioned to approve last month's minutes, Phil second. All in favor. Joe abstained.

Updates:

Ash updated the group about a meeting earlier that day at 3PM with Brad Harriman and Selectmen about preliminary plans for sidewalk expansion. Placement and lighting were discussed. Brad will take feedback back to White Mountain Survey for finalization and explore necessary easements. Brad and Selectmen were confident that they would be finished by the end of summer.

There was discussion around the school portion of the property tax is going up \$1.33 per \$1000 for Ossipee Residents. Discussion at the Selectmen's meeting revolved around exploring separating from GWRSD to for a new district.

Ash, Matt and Misty gave a report of the Presentation given to the Selectmen and Planning Boards. The overall sense was positive. It was acknowledged that more work needs to be done to communicate what economic development is and what the different paths to achieve it are.

Matt updated the Council on a New Hampshire Municipal Association seminar that he had attended the previous week. The NHMA holds many educational seminars about public policy and municipal governance topics that are free or low-cost to member-towns.

New Business:

Discussion followed about the need for a press release about the results of the Envision Night, Town Survey and the Presentation with a focus on some of the businesses that residents suggested they would like to see in town.

It was decided that the next project would be an outreach/survey to businesses in town to 1.) Let them know of the Council's resources and 2.) Collect information about what businesses are in Ossipee and why?

Joy brought up the need for better communication and coordination amongst the various boards and groups in town and suggested a roundtable, potentially facilitated by Ossipee Listens. She will reach out to Molly Messenger of Ossipee Listens and others about setting that up.

Following the update on the school property tax increase and feedback from the Presentation indicated that residents and even elected officials are not clear on how property taxes are calculated, it was decided that a simple, one page educational pamphlet or poster would be helpful. This could be used in the future when advocating for new infrastructure projects that might require tax money. Joe is taking the lead on this project.

Phil and Matt updated the council on potential movement on the Envision Night topic of a trail/rail-trail system. Phil is an avid user of rail-trails across the north east and explained the benefits as well as potential connections to existing rail trails in Wakefield/Wolfeboro and North Conway. Matt explained that he had been in contact with representatives from the N.H. Department of Transportation about the possibility of getting permission to build a trail along the existing rail corridor through town. Initial talks seemed positive.

The group generated many questions for the business survey and discussed how to format and phrase them to best be able to measure and quantify the answers. The survey will be finalized at the next meeting.

Old Business:

After discussion about the difficulty that new businesses and residents have in dealing with town boards and understanding the process, Ash presented a draft of a poster/infographic detailing, in simple steps, how to go about the process of getting approved to do business in Ossipee. Discussion followed.

Misty updated the board that the Library Board would like a version of the Envision Presentation focusing on the Community Center. The board agreed that it would be a positive thing. Misty will work on figuring out a date and time.

Phil motioned to adjourn. Ash seconded. All in favor

Meeting was adjourned around 7:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Trahan, Secretary