

North Brookfield Downtown Development Committee (DDC) Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2021

Due to the current Massachusetts recommendations of social distancing and gathering limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held Online through the Zoom.com video conferencing application.

In Attendance: Sheila Orsi, Marilynn Borst, John McClintock, Sharon Donovan

Absent: Glenna Stocks, Ethan Melad

Guests: Chet Lubelczyk from Finance Committee, Eva Brown from the Friends of the Townhouse, Sue Lewandowski

Meeting Opened: 6:42pm

Approval of Minutes:

September 7, 2020 – Moved to accept by Sheila Orsi, Second by Sharon Donovan– approved

October 5, 2020 – Moved to accept by Sheila Orsi, Second by Sharon Donovan- approved

December 28, 2020– Moved to accept by Marilyn Borst, Second by Marilyn Borst - approved

Old Business:

Sheila plans to rejuvenate the Wed. Night Business Bites on the NBDDC Facebook page. She has a business scheduled for 1/6/21.

The NBDDC is scheduled to give a review at the BOS meeting on 1/5/21.

Sheila stated that the February 1, 2021 meeting will need to be about the GOALS section of the Strategic Plan. Marilynn has put a lot of work into this and we need to review, solidify and place up online. We hope to check a few of the goals off – or be pretty close.

New Business

1 Sharon let the team know that the Senior Center is working on planning a Shred Day.

2 Sheila talked about the Trails Grant Class she and Jack attended on 1/4/21 virtually. This was hosted by several groups. The two grants were being proposed.

One is called the *Youth Engagement & Healthy Aging on Trails in Central Mass.* This grant is to help improve accessibility and utilization of trails in Southern Worcester County. When it becomes available to apply for it would help with entrance and exit accessibility, signage, guides and maps as well as benches and stop points for people to rest.

The second one is called The Regional & Statewide Trail Mapping grant. This grant is intended to be a web based approach to the trails, allowing constituents to log in, either from a computer or via an online mobile app, to view the trails in a particular area. It would also help to promote the trails.

The CMRPC requested that attendees mail in a Letter of Support for the proposed grants as they are requesting them to help support the proposal.

Sheila made a motion for the DDC to create a letter of support for the Trails grant team. Jack seconded, all were in support. Sheila stated she would draw up a letter for approval.

3 Marilyn & Eva reported that the FOTH are looking to create their own Strategic Plan from the goals laid out in the NBDDC Strategic Plan. FOTH would like to set up a meeting to discuss how to go about this as they want to have Action Plans to work on.

4 Gemma and Ian from CMRPC are looking to join our meeting on Jan 19 – to further discuss the application for the Winter Shared Streets Grant.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for January 19, 2021.

Close of Meeting: Motion to close meeting made by Sheila Orsi at 7:19pm, Seconded by Jack McClintock

Meeting minutes submitted by Sheila Orsi

January 11, 2021