

RICHMOND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

January 29, 2018 - Minutes

Call to order: 7:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Woodmansee, Joe Reddish, Keven Miller, Meredith Westner

Motions to approve Minutes of meetings:

December 14, 2016 – (MOTION to approve minutes: Joe Reddish/Keven Miller 2<sup>nd</sup> / All in Favor)

OLD BUSINESS:

- i. Richmond Map/Welcome Center Information Sheet
  - a. Dave Woodmansee reached out to Chariho Tech in early January to gauge interest in helping with the Welcome Map – Chariho Tech is discussing internally to determine appropriate department to consider project. A meeting with Chariho Tech is anticipated as details develop. There were some discussion of potential for “internship” or “scholarship” awards for students participating in this project.
- ii. Richmond Community Marketplace
  - a. Discuss Plan for 2018
    - i. Given the “festivals” were fairly successful, the plan is definitely to do all 3 events - working on setting dates for the events
    - ii. Need to reconsider the approach to working with town groups – yard sales were a struggle last year with lower than hoped participation and customer turnout – perhaps a different approach is needed
    - iii. The RCM is still looking for farms –continuing to reach out to local options
- iii. Remaining EDC Vacancies – Richmond Business Owner & Resident
  - a. Discussed how to reach potential people to fill EDC vacancies – some options:
    - i. A mailing
    - ii. Reach out to a youth member (over 18) via school channels
    - iii. A special town FB postings,
      1. Dave Woodmansee to ask Karen Pinch about a special FB/website posting so that the vacancies are highlighted rather than part of the larger “vacancy” postings
    - iv. Posting at local businesses
      1. Joe Reddish to create a draft flyer

NEW BUSINESS:

- iv. FY2019 Budget Request
  - a. MOTION: approve budget request of \$4000 (Keven/ Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>/ all in favor)
- v. Membership Renewal Discussion – Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce
  - a. Renewal is due but there is concern that the services were not utilize them last year - need to reach out to find out what services are available
    - i. Keven Miller to approach them to find out what we get for our money

- ii. Meredith Westner agreed to work with them on event dates etc. once contact is established
    - b. MOTION to pay the invoice to Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce (Joe Reddish/  
2<sup>nd</sup> Keven Miller / all in favor)
  - vi. 2018 Meeting Schedule
    - a. 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
  - vii. Update from Town Planner
    - a. The town planner was unavailable due to the short time frame for meeting planning, but provided the following input:
      - i. Richmond Common as viable commercial space
      - ii. Preserve expansion
      - iii. Update on comprehensive plan – a quick review of past reviews resulted in the following suggestions:
        - 1. Reword the Richmond Farmers Market section
        - 2. Goals Policies and actions
          - a. Change to Commerce RI

OPEN FORUM:

Dave Woodmansee discussed a concept proposed about showcasing local business on the town's social media. There is some concern about being sure to promote equally – perhaps the chamber of commerce can assist, for example, maybe the town can link to their chamber content to put a level between town business and commercial business

Adjourn: 8:46 (MOTION to adjourn meeting - Dave Woodmansee /2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Reddish /All in favor)