

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON  
JOINT MEETING  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE &  
DOWNTOWN AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, April 9, 2013  
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

**Members Present:** Gail Ellis, Ann Titus, Denise Roy-Palmer, Rodney Jablonski and Joan Funk

**Members Absent:** Joshua Carlsen

**Selectmen's Representative:** Jim Horgan

**Town Staff Present:** Town Administrator Keith Trefethen and Planning Director Kathy Menici

**Public Present:** Brian St.Onge

**At 5:00pm Chairman Gail Ellis called the meeting to order.**

**1. Discussion with Town Planner and Town Administrator:**

Planning Director Kathy Menici explained that she contacted the realtor for Rite Aid and informed them of some potential sites on Rte. 11 in a mailed packet. She plans to follow up in a few weeks.

Town Administrator Keith Trefethen informed the Committee that the town has several projects in the works to better the downtown area. These projects include drainage improvements, road work and sidewalk restoration. Gail asked if there are any plans with the Sarah Greenfield Business Park and Keith explained at this point there are two lots available but no plans for them at this time. Also, the first meeting to start looking at the needs and goals for a future Public Safety Building will be held tonight with the plan to hopefully present a "draft" idea for the 2014 Town Meeting.

**2. Discussion with Downtown Property Owners:**

Ann stated that she spoke with several downtown property owners and they are not available to attend a 5pm meeting however they did note some concerns. Some of the concerns were around the maintenance of the downtown area but also the lack of patrons to their businesses. Gail asked Kathy Menici to review the Community Block Grant that the town was awarded. Kathy

explained the \$30,000 grant will be used to hire a consultant to look into the possibility of high density development nodes and a tax increment district along with a tax incentive program for business owners who make improvements to their businesses downtown.

**3. Budgetary Discussion for 2014:**

Denise explained that it would be about \$2000 to participate in the multi town media group in order to expand our advertising.

**4. Update on Expo:**

Jim reported that the initial invitation email for the Expo did go out by email (and mail to those who do not have email addresses on file with the town). Gail stated that there will be a \$10 fee this year for a space though participants will be able to make appointments and sell their materials. Joan asked if it is appropriate to let participants sell items when the downtown spots are more expensive and the thought was that the traffic within the expo is not nearly what it would be right downtown in the “middle” of Hay Day.

**5. Review Website Information:**

This item was tabled.

**6. Review Of Minutes:**

***A. Ann Titus motioned to approve the minutes of March 26, 2013 as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rodney Jablonski. Motion carried with all in favor.***

**7. Other:**

**A.** Gail asked if the Committee would be interested in an earlier meeting time to accommodate the Planner and the reply was no, but if there is a need to have a substantial amount of time with the Planner than that individual meeting time can be addressed.

**B.** Jim stated he would like to brainstorm some type of plan to get together with the downtown business and building owners.

***At 6:50pm, Ann Titus motioned to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger  
Recording Secretary