

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
JOINT MEETING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE &
DOWNTOWN AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 25, 2012
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

Members Present: Ann Titus, Gail Ellis, Sharon McKenney, Denise Roy-Palmer and Sheila Walter

Members Absent: JoAnn Doke and Kathy King (excused)

Selectmen's Representative: Jim Horgan (excused) and Joan Funk

Public Present: Barry Elliot, DPW Director Scott Hazelton and Dave Connolly

At 6:35pm Chairman Gail Ellis called the meeting to order and welcomed new member Denise Roy Palmer to the EDC.

1. Review of Minutes:

Ann Titus motioned to accept the minutes of August 14, 2012 as written, 2nd Gail Ellis. Motion carried.

2. Discussion with DPW Director Scott Hazelton:

Scott presented the preliminary conceptual plans that have been development for the reconstruction of the downtown area and the Fire Department parking lot. Currently they are looking at funding sources for such a project. It is their (Scott's, fire chief and police chief) intention to involve at least one member of this committee on a new committee to construct a firm plan to present to the town in March of 2014. Strafford Regional Planning Commission has provided Scott and the Chiefs with a list of possible funding opportunities.

3. Discussion on Dave Connolly of the Conservation Commission:

Dave commented that he is concerned that Hay Day is moving in the direction of being "cancelled" and urged the Committee to help with the planning of the next one. Lot of ideas were discussed for future Hay Days including a craft section, bringing back Lil Mr. and Mrs. Hay Day, hay bale throwing, pie eating contest, Saturday breakfast, photo display, a parade and much more. Gail will speak with the town administrator about the possibility of a Hay Day Committee.

4. Other Business To Come Before the Committee:

A. Ann noted that there is a newspaper “stand” chained to the DTBC sign by Civic Street and she does not feel this is appropriate. Ann will bring it to the town administrator’s attention.

B. Brandy Sanger reported that the scouts did the clean up of the Sarah Greenfield Business Park.

C. Ann will be scheduling a ribbon cutting for the Grace Café on Main Street.

D. Denise explained that WEDCO has been working with the library and they have scheduled several marketing workshops over the next months. She will email the committee members a copy of the schedule.

5. Old Business:

A. The Hay Day Business Expo was a success with about 50 participants. Suggestions for next year were to have more advertising of who will be participating and to not have other vendors handout the tickets.

B. Gail noted that Jim is supposed to approach the Selectmen about the advertising of the lot for sale in the Sarah Greenfield Business Park.

C. A discussion was held on a 5pm meeting time so that the Town Administrator can attend the meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/9 and Gail will check with the other members to see if 5pm will work for them.

D. Barry Elliot noted that there are several empty store fronts downtown. Years ago when this happened local artisans filled the windows with their homemade goods and advertising. The committee will need to get a list of the building owners to see if this would be a feasible project.

At 8:06pm, Ann Titus motioned to adjourn, 2nd Sharon McKenney. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger
Recording Secretary